

1999 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 892

Offered February 25, 1999

Commending Peter G. Decker, Jr.

Patrons—Joannou, Croshaw, Diamonstein, Drake, Jones, J.C., Moss, Robinson and Williams; Senators: Holland, Miller, Y.B., Stolle and Walker

WHEREAS, Peter G. Decker, Jr., a prominent Norfolk attorney and philanthropist, was honored by the Cosmopolitan Club of Norfolk with its 1998 First Citizen Award; and

WHEREAS, the Cosmopolitan Club of Norfolk has presented the First Citizen Award annually since 1928 to a Norfolk citizen to honor his or her contributions to the community; and

WHEREAS, a native of Norfolk and a 1958 graduate of the College of William and Mary, Peter Decker earned his law degree from the Marshall Wythe School of Law at William and Mary and was admitted to the State Bar in 1960; and

WHEREAS, for more than 30 years, Peter Decker has been a member of the board of governors and directors of the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and is a former national executive vice president in charge of fund-raising for St. Jude Hospital; and

WHEREAS, Peter Decker is a founding member of the Sons and Daughters of Lebanon and serves on the board of trustees of the International College of Beirut and as a member of the American Task Force for Lebanon; and

WHEREAS, appointed by three Virginia Governors to the State Board of Corrections, Peter Decker served on the board for more than 11 years, seven of them as chairman, and was also appointed to the State Board of Education by Governor Wilder; and

WHEREAS, in Norfolk, Peter Decker has held leadership posts in many community organizations, serving as advisory board chairman for the National Maritime Center—Nauticus and as a member of the Downtown Norfolk Council, the Virginia Zoological Society, the Greater Norfolk Corporation, the Tidewater Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program, and many others; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, Peter Decker received the first L. D. Britt Community Service Award; in 1997, he was named the NAACP Area II Award recipient; and in 1998, he received the Vivian C. Mason Award from the Urban League of Hampton Roads; and

WHEREAS, Peter Decker's exceptional dedication to the Norfolk community, combined with his service to the Commonwealth and to national and international causes, makeshim an eminently qualified recipient of the First Citizen Award; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Peter G. Decker, Jr., on his selection as Norfolk's 1998 First Citizen; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Peter G. Decker, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and best wishes.

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