HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 230

Offered January 15, 2008

Commending Robert F. Horan, Jr.

Patrons—Shannon, Albo, BaCote, Bowling, Bulova, Caputo, Ebbin, Eisenberg, Howell, A.T., Hugo, Hull, Johnson, Lewis, Marsden, Mathieson, McClellan, Melvin, Miller, P.J., Moran, Morrissey, Nichols, Plum, Rust, Scott, J.M., Sickles, Tyler, Valentine and Vanderhye; Senators: Barker, Colgan, Cuccinelli, Deeds, Edwards, Herring, Howell, Petersen, Puller, Reynolds, Saslaw, Ticer and Whipple

WHEREAS, Robert F. Horan, Jr., a dedicated and exceptional prosecutor, retired in September 2007 after serving for 40 years as the attorney for the Commonwealth for Fairfax County; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the Marine Corps and Georgetown University Law Center, Robert Horan served as an assistant prosecutor in Fairfax from 1963 to 1965, worked as a defense lawyer for two years, and then was appointed attorney for the Commonwealth in March 1967; and

WHEREAS, after his initial appointment, Robert Horan won his first election for attorney for the Commonwealth in November 1967, and he has been opposed only twice since 1975, the last time in 1995; and

WHEREAS, respected and lauded by fellow prosecutors as well as defense attorneys, Robert Horan handled a substantial caseload throughout his career while running a large office, winning dozens of high-profile cases over the years; and

WHEREAS, Robert Horan was personally selected by the United States Attorney General to try the Lee Boyd Malvo sniper case, and he prosecuted the man who shot five people outside CIA headquarters in 1993; and

WHEREAS, Robert Horan helped form the Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys, and the award the association gives to honor a prosecutor each year is the Robert F. Horan Jr. Award; and

WHEREAS, a legend in the prosecution community, Robert Horan received, in 2003, the first lifetime achievement award presented by the National District Attorneys Association; and

WHEREAS, the longest serving prosecutor in Virginia, Robert Horan fulfilled his duties with great honor, integrity, and skill, always striving to be fair and to seek justice; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Robert F. Horan, Jr., on his outstanding career as attorney for the Commonwealth for Fairfax County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robert F. Horan, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for his commitment to the citizens of Fairfax County and the Commonwealth and best wishes for a happy and rewarding retirement.