

## 2009 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 740

Offered January 14, 2009

Prefiled January 14, 2009

*Commending Andrew Fine and Harry Lester.*

Patrons—Bouchard, Mathieson and Miller, P.J.

WHEREAS, Andrew Fine and Harry Lester are recognized for their dedication to the preservation of the Lynnhaven River and their outstanding service to Virginia Beach and the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Fine and Harry Lester founded Lynnhaven River NOW in early 2003, because they were deeply concerned about the decline of the Lynnhaven River watershed, which includes Long Creek, Broad Bay, Crystal Lake, Linkhorn Bay, and their tributaries; and

WHEREAS, Lynnhaven River NOW is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the well-being and restoration of the Lynnhaven River, which has become an important initiative of the City of Virginia Beach and its residents and the city council; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Fine and Harry Lester are an inspiration to Lynnhaven River NOW's many supporters and volunteers, who are dedicated to improving water quality in the Lynnhaven River for the benefit of current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the hard work and dedication of Andrew Fine and Harry Lester and Lynnhaven River NOW, Virginia's watermen will be able to realize future oyster harvests and consumers will be able to safely and legally enjoy oysters from the Lynnhaven River; and

WHEREAS, Lynnhaven River NOW's ongoing mission includes seeding the Lynnhaven River with water-filtering oysters; promoting a greater public awareness of the type and extent of the river's problems; increasing programs and resources to enable homeowners to better protect the river from runoff; fostering partnerships to reduce river pollution; and engaging local, state, and federal government in efforts to restore the river; and

WHEREAS, Andrew Fine and Harry Lester believe strongly that "Oysters are a metaphor for clean water" and efforts to restore oysters in the Lynnhaven River should remain a top priority for the Tidewater region and the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Andrew Fine and Harry Lester, the founders of Lynnhaven River NOW, for their dedication to the Lynnhaven River and their outstanding service to Virginia Beach; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Andrew Fine and Harry Lester as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for their efforts to preserve the beautiful and vital rivers of the Commonwealth.

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