

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 758

Commending Charles A. Sledd.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 4, 2011
Agreed to by the Senate, February 10, 2011

WHEREAS, Charles A. Sledd, who has served the Commonwealth with distinction for nearly 37 years, retires on February 1, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Charles Sledd began his career in public service on August 1, 1974, with the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; and

WHEREAS, Charles Sledd served in significant positions throughout his career with the department—as Agency Outreach Division Director, Program Development Director, Office of the Director, Resource Education Division Director, Public Relations and Resource Education Division Director, Assistant Division Director, Fisheries, and District Fisheries Biologist; and

WHEREAS, Charles Sledd developed excellent working relationships with legislators, the Office of the Governor, the Offices of the Attorney General and Secretary of Natural Resources, and with constituents across the state; and

WHEREAS, Charles Sledd's relationship with members of the legislature and staff of the Division of Legislative Services can best be described as one built on trust and confidence in his judgment, which resulted in the enactment of laws that are both technically correct and substantive in nature; and

WHEREAS, Charles Sledd's advice and support for legislation for special fishing and hunting license privileges for veterans receiving care in veterans and military hospitals in Virginia demonstrated his awareness of the importance of such recreational activities to the rehabilitation process; and

WHEREAS, because of his considerable understanding of issues important to the Board and Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Charles Sledd contributed significantly by providing oversight of the legislative efforts that resulted in the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries receiving authority to revise license fees, designation of the agency as Level I, passage of the constitutional amendment for the right to hunt and fish, and the passage of House Bill No. 38 for alternative funding; and

WHEREAS, Charles Sledd is recognized nationally for leadership and management as Virginia's state Boating Law Administrator (BLA); and

WHEREAS, Charles Sledd's advocacy of boating safety education was essential in the successful effort to pass the Virginia law requiring those persons operating vessels on Virginia waters to pass a boating safety course; and

WHEREAS, Charles Sledd, with less than six years as the BLA, was elected to the office of president of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators after holding the offices of vice president and secretary/treasurer of the regional Southern States Boating Law Administrators Association; and

WHEREAS, Charles Sledd managed the agency's sport fish restoration federal funds at a time when these dollars increased from less than \$500,000 per year to nearly \$1.5 million per year due to Wallop-Breaux enhancements; and

WHEREAS, Charles Sledd also conducted fish management research that led to the implementation of the first largemouth bass "slot-size limits" on Virginia reservoirs (Lake Anna and Lake Chesdin); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Charles A. Sledd for his outstanding service to the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Charles A. Sledd as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the support that he has provided to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the wildlife and natural resources of Virginia.

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