

11105429D

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 960

Offered February 21, 2011

Commending Francis T. Eck.

Patrons—Cosgrove, Howell, W.J., Janis and O'Bannon

WHEREAS, Francis T. Eck has dedicated over 40 years to the legal profession while making lasting contributions to the Richmond area; and

WHEREAS, a native of Richmond, Francis Eck received a bachelor's degree from Villanova University and a law degree from T.C. Williams School of Law at the University of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, after completing his schooling, Francis Eck embarked on a distinguished legal career that has included service to the resort development industry, work with the General Assembly, private practice, and involvement with his family business; and

WHEREAS, a registered lobbyist for 35 years, Francis Eck represented the interests of the Virginia Resort Development Association before the General Assembly, hosting the annual dinner at his home for more than 20 years, and playing a key role in the development of the Virginia Real Estate Time-Share Act and Virginia Membership Camping Act, among other legislation; and

WHEREAS, Francis Eck has also been involved in other resort industry associations over the years, including the Bahamas Vacation Ownership Council and the American Resort Development Association, where he serves on the state legislative and awards committees and was formerly chair of its Resale Forum; and

WHEREAS, in private practice, Francis Eck specializes in real estate matters, including issues related to primary home subdivisions, planned unit developments, and condominiums; and

WHEREAS, Francis Eck remains involved in the family business, serving as a director and general counsel to the company; and

WHEREAS, Francis Eck's legal career has also included sharing his experience and expertise with a rising generation as an instructor at Virginia Commonwealth University, working for KPMG, and serving for four years as the general counsel to the Virginia House of Delegates General Laws Committee; and

WHEREAS, Francis Eck has contributed to his profession as a member of the Virginia State Bar, American Bar Association, and City of Richmond Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, an active member of the Catholic Church in Richmond, Francis Eck donated the lighting for the dome and front facade of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, with the hope of having the Cathedral serve as a beacon for the City; and

WHEREAS, Francis Eck has played an instrumental role in the Catholic Campus Ministry at the Cathedral through hosting Virginia Commonwealth University students at his Amherst County Townley IV Farm and assisted the Diocese by taking 15 seminarians on pilgrimages to Rome; and

WHEREAS, Francis Eck has also served on the finance council of the Cathedral for approximately 20 years and served the community through his affiliation with the Knights of Columbus; and

WHEREAS, Francis Eck graciously donated his 1,800-acre farm to Bon Secours Health Care System, Inc., in 2009 as the Francis T. Eck Retreat Center for corporate retreats, religious gatherings, and other related Bon Secours Health Care matters; and

WHEREAS, a man of great honor, integrity, and intelligence, Francis Eck's life has been marked by exemplary legal service, love for his family, and commitment to his faith; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Francis T. Eck for his many contributions to his profession and community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Francis T. Eck as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and respect for his longtime service to the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

HJ960