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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 963

Offered February 21, 2011

*Commending Esson McKenzie Miller, Jr.*

Patrons—Cox, M.K., Armstrong and Howell, W.J.

WHEREAS, Esson McKenzie Miller, Jr., the longtime director of the Division of Legislative Services, has announced his retirement in June of 2011; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Hampton High School, Esson "E.M." Miller earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Richmond and a law degree from the University of Tennessee College of Law; and

WHEREAS, E.M. Miller furthered his education throughout his career with studies at the Virginia Executive Institute, Harvard Law School, and the Center for Creative Leadership; and

WHEREAS, E.M. Miller began his distinguished career working with the legislature as a junior attorney with the Division of Statutory Research and Drafting, the predecessor of the Division of Legislative Services; and

WHEREAS, E.M. Miller's skillful drafting and legal knowledge led to his promotion to senior attorney before he joined the Senate Finance Committee as staff director in 1982, where he oversaw the provision of budgetary policy analysis; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 1988, E.M. Miller rejoined the Division of Legislative Services as director, guiding it with great devotion and commitment for the next 23 years; and

WHEREAS, E.M. Miller has worked with great diligence to ensure that the members of the General Assembly receive well-written legislation, exemplary research and policy analysis, and other essential services to assist them in fulfilling their duties and obligations; and

WHEREAS, a valued member of the Virginia Code Commission, E.M. Miller has shared his extensive legal experience on matters related to the Code of Virginia and administrative regulations and their publication since 1988; and

WHEREAS, one of the original members of the Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council, E.M. Miller has provided thoughtful insight as the Council encouraged and facilitated compliance with the Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, E.M. Miller's contributions to numerous national organizations, including the National Conference of State Legislatures, National Tax Association, and National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, have benefitted state legislatures across the country; and

WHEREAS, a loyal public servant, E.M. Miller has faithfully provided valuable service to the legislature and Commonwealth for almost four decades; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Esson McKenzie Miller, Jr., for his distinguished service on the occasion of his retirement; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Esson McKenzie Miller, Jr., as a token of the esteem in which he is held by the members of the General Assembly of Virginia.