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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 782

Offered January 29, 2013

Commending Thomas Wayne Fore.

Patron—Cline

WHEREAS, Thomas Wayne Fore, the director of public utilities for the Town of Amherst, was honored by the Virginia Section of the American Water Works Association as the Edward H. Ruehl Operator of the Year for 2012; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Amherst County High School, Thomas "Tom" Fore began his career in waterworks management at the Amherst County Service Authority as a water operator apprentice in 1980; and

WHEREAS, Tom Fore gained valuable experience and earned a certificate in water/wastewater management from Central Virginia Community College before joining the Town of Amherst as the lead water plant operator and backup wastewater plant operator in 1989; and

WHEREAS, in 1992 Tom Fore was promoted to superintendent of plants and oversaw a water treatment expansion project that doubled the waterworks capacity; in 2007 he became director of public utilities with overall responsibility for the Town of Amherst's water and sewer utility operations; and

WHEREAS, an extremely knowledgeable leader, Tom Fore worked to improve the town's water treatment plant operation, encouraged town utility workers to cross-train and obtain operator licenses, developed water audit methods and operator safety programs, and improved water quality while reducing operator costs; and

WHEREAS, Tom Fore has wisely overseen the management of the town's assets and took action to improve watershed protection, which resulted in an award from the Environmental Protection Agency; and

WHEREAS, during Tom Fore's tenure, the Town of Amherst consistently received the Virginia Department of Health Bronze Award in the Excellence in Granular Media Water Treatment Plant Performance Awards; and

WHEREAS, a respected leader in his industry, Tom Fore is a member of the Virginia Association of Municipal Wastewater Agencies, Inc., and has been a member of the American Water Works Association and Virginia Water Environment Association for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS, a member of the Virginia Rural Water Association since 1993, Tom Fore has twice served on its board and also on the legislative and bylaws committees; and

WHEREAS, Tom Fore has also taken an active role in community and civic affairs as a coach for local youth sports for more than two decades, a former member of the Amherst Life Saving Crew, and a 12-year member of the Amherst County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, Tom Fore has also represented Amherst County on a number of organizations and was twice appointed to serve on the Commonwealth's Criminal Justice Service Board; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated public servant, Tom Fore has served his fellow residents with great intelligence, diligence, and vision; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Thomas Wayne Fore on his selection by the Virginia Section of the American Water Works Association as the Edward H. Ruehl Operator of the Year for 2012; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Thomas Wayne Fore as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration and gratitude for his commitment to serving the Town of Amherst and providing clean drinking water.

INTRODUCED

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