

2015 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 753

Offered February 4, 2015

Commending The Tavern.

Patrons—O'Quinn and Pillion; Senator: Carrico

WHEREAS, in 2014, The Tavern restaurant, located in Abingdon's oldest building, celebrated 20 years of providing fine dining in a relaxed and informal atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, when the building was first constructed in 1779, it was used as a tavern and stagecoach stop; at that time, few buildings existed west of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and in its early days, The Tavern's guests included distinguished statesmen and leaders; and

WHEREAS, President Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay, King Louis-Philippe of France, and Pierre Charles L'Enfant, whose architectural designs established the layout of streets in Washington, D.C., stayed at The Tavern during its first years of existence; and

WHEREAS, the building that today houses The Tavern has had many uses in the past 235 years; it has been a bank, bakery, general store, cabinet shop, barber shop, private residence, antique shop, and restaurant; during the Civil War, The Tavern was a hospital for wounded soldiers; and

WHEREAS, an extensive renovation in 1984 by Emmitt F. Yearly, a local attorney, restored The Tavern to its former prominence, and in 1994, The Tavern once again opened as a restaurant, under the management of Max Hermann, a native of Germany and a veteran of the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, today, diners enjoy the best of German and American cuisine at The Tavern; the atmosphere blends the historic appeal of a Colonial-era inn with modern amenities, including a balcony and tranquil back courtyard for outdoor eating in warm weather; and

WHEREAS, under Max Hermann's ownership, The Tavern has garnered numerous accolades and awards in its 20-year history; a loyal clientele and many favorable reviews have helped make The Tavern a favorite of area residents, visitors to historic Abingdon, and travelers who find their way to the eatery; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend The Tavern restaurant in Abingdon on the occasion of its 20th anniversary of providing informal and relaxed dining where customers can enjoy delicious meals in a building steeped in history and Colonial atmosphere; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Max Hermann, manager of The Tavern, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for helping to continue the Commonwealth's long tradition of fine dining and warm hospitality.

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