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## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 141

Offered February 28, 2020

*Commending the Honorable R. Steven Landes.*

Patron—Runion

WHEREAS, the Honorable R. Steven Landes served the Commonwealth for more than two decades as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, ably representing the residents of the Shenandoah Valley in the 25th District; and

WHEREAS, a native of Staunton, the Honorable R. Steven "Steve" Landes attended Buffalo Gap High School in Augusta County and earned a bachelor's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University, then pursued a career in marketing, advertising, and public relations; and

WHEREAS, Steve Landes began his time in public service as a legislative aide to the Honorable A.R. Giesen, Jr., from 1988 to 1992 and a district director for the Honorable Bob Goodlatte from 1993 to 1995; and

WHEREAS, desirous to be of further service to his community, Steve Landes ran for and was elected to a seat in the Virginia House of Delegates in 1995 and represented the residents of parts of the Counties of Albemarle, Augusta, and Rockingham in that capacity until November 2019; and

WHEREAS, during his time as a state lawmaker, Steve Landes introduced and supported numerous important pieces of legislation to benefit all Virginians, especially related to government accountability and support for the Commonwealth's agricultural industry; and

WHEREAS, Steve Landes championed legislation to create the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry as a cabinet-level position and established the Center for Rural Virginia and the Governor's Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Steve Landes supported the creation of the Small Business Jobs Grant Fund and the Virginia International Trade Corporation to enhance the economic vitality of the Commonwealth and the Office of the Inspector General to investigate reports of fraud, waste, corruption, or abuse of Virginia residents by public officials; and

WHEREAS, Steve Landes offered his leadership and expertise to the House Committee on Education as chair and the House Appropriations Committee as vice chair; he served as vice chair of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission and was the first non-lawyer to chair the Virginia Code Commission; and

WHEREAS, Steve Landes has been an active leader in his community as a two-time president of the Weyers Cave Ruritan Club and preserved the history and heritage of the Commonwealth as a member of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and the board of trustees of the Frontier Culture Museum of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Steve Landes' legacy of leadership in the Virginia House of Delegates left the Shenandoah Valley community stronger, and he will continue to serve his fellow residents as clerk of the Augusta Circuit Court; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Honorable R. Steven Landes hereby be commended for his 24 years of service to the Commonwealth as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Honorable R. Steven Landes as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his legacy of achievements in service to the residents of the 25th District.

INTRODUCED

HR141