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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 193

Offered March 4, 2022

Commending Charlie Euripides.

Patrons—Ebbin, Barker and Saslaw; Delegates: Bennett-Parker and Herring

WHEREAS, Charlie Euripides, an honorable veteran of the Korean War and esteemed owner of Royal Restaurant and Caterers in Alexandria, will celebrate his 90th birthday on December 6, 2022; and

WHEREAS, raised in Cyprus, Charlie Euripides left his family as a teenager to immigrate to the United States, arriving in Alexandria in 1951; and

WHEREAS, while working tirelessly alongside an uncle who owned a small restaurant at the corner of King and Royal Streets in Alexandria, Charlie Euripides took citizenship classes at the former George Washington High School in Del Ray and studied engineering at George Washington University; and

WHEREAS, Charlies Euripides then served his country with courage and valor as a member of the United States Navy during the Korean War, including two years aboard the U.S.S. *New Jersey* in the gunnery division and two years with the flagship of the U.S. Sixth Fleet, the U.S.S. *Salem*; and

WHEREAS, while with the United States Navy, Charlie Euripides also served in a special services unit translating messages from the Greek military and other various pieces of high-level intel; and

WHEREAS, following his service, Charlie Euripides took over the Royal Café for his uncle, guiding the restaurant's move to its present location on North St. Asaph Street and renaming it the Royal Restaurant; and

WHEREAS, long popular with local politicians, law-enforcement officers, and judges due to its proximity to Alexandria City Hall and its reputation for quality and service, Charlie Euripides' restaurant continued to thrive, while also attracting prominent clientele such as former President Gerald Ford, Bob Hope, Sammy Davis, Jr., and Elizabeth Taylor over the years; and

WHEREAS, inspired by his own experiences, Charlie Euripides and his wife not only provided jobs to newly arrived immigrants, but also mentored and supported them in their personal journeys to attain American citizenship; and

WHEREAS, after joining American Legion Post 24 in Old Town in 1958, Charlie Euripides became motivated to care for veterans who had fallen on hard times, providing countless meals and other forms of assistance, including Thanksgiving Day banquets that were open for all to attend; and

WHEREAS, Charlie Euripides' commitment to his community has only grown over the years, leading him to make generous contributions to civic organizations such as The Salvation Army, Del Ray Artisans, and the Alexandria Police Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Charlie Euripides has been recognized with numerous accolades and awards over the years, including the Distinguished Patriot Award from the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce in 2016 and a Living Legends of Alexandria honor in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Charlie Euripides has not only built a successful and cherished business, but has also taken great effort to support the aspirations of future U.S. citizens and the needs of our nation's veterans, making him a true embodiment of the American Dream; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Charlie Euripides, distinguished businessman and citizen of Alexandria, on the occasion of his 90th birthday; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Charlie Euripides as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his inspirational life and many contributions to the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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