

2024 SESSION

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 44

Commending the Honorable Mark C. Simmons.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 25, 2024
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 29, 2024

WHEREAS, after a distinguished legal career, the Honorable Mark C. Simmons will retire as a judge of the Fairfax General District Court of the 19th Judicial District of Virginia in 2024; and

WHEREAS, Mark Simmons is a lifelong Virginian who grew up in Arlington and Alexandria and graduated from T.C. Williams High School; he continued his education by earning a bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia and a law degree from The College of William and Mary in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in between attending college and law school, Mark Simmons worked as a radio reporter and announcer for WRXL and WRNL in Richmond, as well as the Virginia News Network; in addition to general news reporting, he was a member of the Virginia Capitol Correspondents Association and covered all aspects of state government; and

WHEREAS, Mark Simmons began his legal career with the U.S. Department of Labor, then joined the Office of the Fairfax Commonwealth's Attorney in 1987; in that capacity, he prosecuted a wide range of more than 1,000 cases, including 125 that ended with a jury trial, and successfully represented Fairfax County in a voting rights challenge that was heard before the Supreme Court of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, Mark Simmons was appointed as a judge of the Fairfax General District Court of the 19th Judicial District of Virginia and presided over the court with great fairness and wisdom for more than two decades; and

WHEREAS, during his time on the bench, Mark Simmons served on numerous committees and was a faculty member of the Virginia State Bar's Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Course and the National Judicial College at the University of Nevada in Reno; and

WHEREAS, in all of his endeavors, Mark Simmons has enjoyed the love and support of his wife of 29 years, Tracey, and their daughter, Casey; outside of his career, he is an avid fan of the Washington Nationals and has held season tickets since the team relocated to Washington, D.C., in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Mark Simmons has served the Commonwealth and the Fairfax community with the utmost dedication, integrity, and distinction; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Honorable Mark C. Simmons on the occasion of his retirement as a judge of the 19th Judicial District of Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Honorable Mark C. Simmons as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his legacy of achievements and best wishes on a well-earned retirement.

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