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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 668

Offered April 1, 2025

Commending the Honorable Randy I. Bellows.

Patrons—Surovell, Boysko, Carroll Foy, Ebbin, Marsden, Pekarsky and Salim

WHEREAS, the Honorable Randy I. Bellows, a highly admired jurist who made numerous contributions to the legal profession and served the residents of Fairfax and the Commonwealth as a judge for the 19th Judicial Circuit of Virginia, will retire in 2025; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the University of Florida and Harvard Law School, Randy Bellows worked as an attorney for the Center for Law & Social Policy, the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, the Office of Independent Counsel for the Iran-Contra investigation, and the firm Covington & Burling from the late 1970s to the late 1980s; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, Randy Bellows began serving as a prosecutor for the Eastern District of Virginia with the United States Attorney's Office, where he handled complex fraud cases and national security matters, including multiple espionage prosecutions; and

WHEREAS, from 1999 to 2000, Randy Bellows was chosen to lead the U.S. Attorney General's Review Team on the Handling of the Los Alamos National Laboratory Investigation, which involved a high profile counterintelligence investigation; and

WHEREAS, Randy Bellows was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Fairfax Circuit Court of the 19th Judicial Circuit of Virginia in 2002 and officially elected as a member of the court in 2003; he has presided over the court with great fairness and wisdom while offering his expertise and legal acumen to numerous committees, boards, and commissions throughout the region and the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, Randy Bellows has served as chair of the Fairfax Courthouse Security Committee, which offers proactive solutions to maintain the safety and security of the Fairfax County Courthouse; and

WHEREAS, Randy Bellows is an adjunct professor at George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School; he previously served on the faculty of the Virginia State Bar's Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Course and subsequently served on the faculty of the Virginia State Bar's Law Student Professionalism Course; and

WHEREAS, from 2012 to 2015, as part of the Supreme Court of Virginia's Judicial Mentoring Program, Randy Bellows served as a mentor for several new circuit court judges in neighboring jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, Randy Bellows also served as a judicial member on the Supreme Court of Virginia's Special Committee on Criminal Discovery and the Virginia State Bar's Criminal Discovery Reform Task Force, which made several recommendations to expand criminal discovery in the Commonwealth that were ultimately adopted by the Supreme Court of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his accomplishments, Randy Bellows received the Award for Excellence in Furthering the Interests of National Security and the John Marshall Award for Outstanding Legal Achievement from the U.S. Attorney General and the Director's Award and the Special Achievement Award from the U.S. Department of Justice, among others; and

WHEREAS, Randy Bellows served the Fairfax community, the Commonwealth, and the United States with the utmost integrity, dedication, and distinction and leaves behind a legacy of excellence to his colleagues in the legal profession; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Honorable Randy I. Bellows hereby be commended on the occasion of his retirement as a judge; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Honorable Randy I. Bellows as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for his legacy of service to the Commonwealth and the United States.

INTRODUCED

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