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1                           **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 54**

2                           Offered January 15, 2026

3                           *Commending the Honorable Robert G. MacDonald.*4                           \_\_\_\_\_  
5                           Patron—Leftwich6                           WHEREAS, the Honorable Robert G. MacDonald, presiding judge of the Chesapeake Circuit Court, was  
7                           selected as the 2025 First Citizen of Chesapeake for his generous contributions to the community and  
8                           commitment to servant leadership; and9                           WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Chesapeake, Robert MacDonald practiced law in the area for more  
10                           than 25 years, including as a partner in the firm MacDonald, Plumlee & Overton, P.C., and served as a  
11                           substitute judge from 1997 through 2014; and12                           WHEREAS, in 2015, Robert MacDonald was appointed as a judge of the Chesapeake General District  
13                           Court in the First Judicial District of Virginia; he presided over the court with great fairness and wisdom until  
14                           2021, when he was elevated to the Chesapeake Circuit Court of the First Judicial Circuit of Virginia; and15                           WHEREAS, outside of his legal career, Robert MacDonald has enhanced the quality of life in Chesapeake  
16                           by offering his insightful leadership to numerous organizations, including Mercy Chefs, Healthy Chesapeake,  
17                           Inc., H.O.P.E. Foundation, Inc., Roc Solid Foundation, the Bank of Hampton Roads Advisory Board, the  
18                           TowneBank Board of Directors, and the Stonebridge Academy School Board; and19                           WHEREAS, Robert MacDonald enjoys fellowship and worship with the congregation of Glad Tidings  
20                           Assembly of God Church, where he has served as a board member, youth leader, and Sunday school teacher;  
21                           he has shared his faith with communities around the world as a missionary in Africa, Latin America, and  
22                           Europe; and23                           WHEREAS, the First Citizen of Chesapeake award is presented annually by the Rotary Club of  
24                           Chesapeake and the Chesapeake Rotary Foundation to recognize outstanding individuals who have upheld  
25                           the Rotary motto “Service Above Self”; Robert MacDonald received the prestigious award at a special  
26                           ceremony at the Chesapeake Conference Center on September 18, 2025; now, therefore, be it27                           RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby  
28                           commend the Honorable Robert G. MacDonald on the occasion of his selection as the 2025 First Citizen of  
29                           Chesapeake; and, be it30                           RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for  
31                           presentation to the Honorable Robert G. MacDonald as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration  
32                           for his personal and professional achievements and legacy of service to the Chesapeake community.

INTRODUCED

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