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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 679

Offered May 13, 2024

Prefiled May 13, 2024

Commending Eugene M. Scheel.

Patron—Higgins

WHEREAS, for nearly 60 years, Eugene M. Scheel has preserved, protected, and chronicled the history of greater Loudoun and Fauquier Counties through his hand-drawn cartography; and

WHEREAS, Eugene M. Scheel has written nine books on Virginia history as well as drawn more than 50 detailed historical maps of the Commonwealth and other states and nations; and

WHEREAS, Eugene M. Scheel has seen his maps featured in countless journals, magazines, and newspapers ranging from *The Washington Post* to *National Geographic*; and

WHEREAS, Eugene M. Scheel was born in the Bronx, New York, but has lived in the historic village of Waterford since 1965; and

WHEREAS, Eugene M. Scheel graduated from Clark University with a bachelor's degree in geography, graduated from the University of Virginia School of Architecture with a graduate degree in

planning, and graduated from Georgetown University with a graduate degree in American literature; and WHEREAS, Eugene M. Scheel began his career with Rand McNally & Company in Chicago, referred to as the "granddaddy of mapmaking," and spent nine years working for *National Geographic*; and

WHEREAS, Eugene M. Scheel served the nation for eight years as a corporal in the United States Marine Corps Reserves, earning a reputation for his uncanny sense of direction; and

WHEREAS, Eugene M. Scheel served the Commonwealth under Governor Linwood Holton's administration, as well as his community as a member of the Loudoun County Planning Commission for eight years; and

WHEREAS, Eugene M. Scheel has been commissioned to make maps for famous clients, including Elizabeth Taylor, who commissioned him to make a map of Atoka Farm for her then husband, United States Senator John Warner; and

WHEREAS, the Library of Congress holds 31 of Eugene M. Scheel's maps to preserve them for posterity, and the curator of vault collections for the geography and maps division of the Library of Congress has aptly described them as "great cartographic contributions to Virginia history"; and

WHEREAS, without Eugene Scheel's work, much of Loudoun County's history, the Commonwealth's history, and the nation's history would have been forgotten; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Eugene M. Scheel hereby be commended for a lifetime of historical preservation work and service to the Commonwealth; and be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Eugene M. Scheel as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his legacy of service and unrivaled cartography.