

RESOLUTION 23-25 - RECOGNIZES AND SALUTES MICHAEL HOUGHTON FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, Michael Houghton joined the law firm of Morris Nichols Arsht & Tunnel in 1983 to begin his illustrious career as an attorney, specializing in commercial transactions, government affairs and unclaimed property; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the firm's commercial law counseling group, Mr. Houghton was instrumental in drafting and lobbying for significant legislation in Delaware State Government, including revisions to the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act as well as the 1990 Delaware River and Bay Authority Compact Amendments; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Houghton followed in the footsteps of his mentor, O. Francis Biondi, to become Delaware Legal Counsel for the Delaware River and Bay Authority in 2002; and

WHEREAS, with his wealth of professional, regulatory, and public policy experience, Mr. Houghton provided valuable insights and recommendations that benefited the Authority and its stakeholders during his more than twenty years as Delaware Legal Counsel; and

WHEREAS, serving with distinction, enthusiasm and dedication, Mr. Houghton was instrumental in formulating and drafting the Authority's By-Laws, which were adopted in April 2004; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Houghton reviewed and modified thousands of professional service and construction contracts to ensure the Authority's interests were safeguarded; and

WHEREAS, a testament to his work ethic, Mr. Houghton's storied public service career includes, but is not limited to the Delaware State Bar Association Past President, current Chair of the Delaware Economic and Financial Advisory Council (DEFAC), and as a board member on the Delaware Public Policy Institute and the Pete du Pont Freedom Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the publication, "The Best Lawyers in America," recognized Mr. Houghton as the 2020 Lawyer of the Year for Administrative and Regulatory Law; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Houghton's thoughtful actions on behalf of the Authority have been unanimously appreciated by the bi-state agency as he counseled Commissioners on complex legal matters and continually searched for innovative solutions on issues under consideration; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware River and Bay Authority does hereby praise and congratulate Michael Houghton for the invaluable services rendered to the States of Delaware and New Jersey through his outstanding contributions as Delaware Legal Counsel for the Delaware River and Bay Authority and does hereby record the Commissioners sincere appreciation by the presentation of this Resolution, adopted today, June 21, 2023.