

2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

24200229D

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 625

Offered June 20, 2024

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3 *Celebrating the life of Bob Labonte.*
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5
6 Patron—Stanley
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9 WHEREAS, Bob Labonte, a distinguished former team owner and crew chief of the National Association
10 for Stock Car Auto Racing who is widely recognized for his significant contributions to the sport, died in
11 2024; and

12 WHEREAS, born in 1933, Bob Labonte's passion for racing was ignited during his teenage years in
13 Maine and continued to grow throughout his life; and

14 WHEREAS, in the late 1940s, following his service in the United States Navy, Bob Labonte moved to
15 Corpus Christi, Texas, where he began working at the Corpus Christi Army Depot; and

16 WHEREAS, known for guiding the early careers of his sons, racing legends Terry and Bobby Labonte,
17 Bob Labonte raised his family in Corpus Christi and passed on his love for racing to his children during their
18 early years, creating a family bond deeply embedded in the sport; and

19 WHEREAS, in pursuit of better opportunities for his sons' racing careers, Bob Labonte moved the family
20 to the Piedmont Triad region of North Carolina in the late 1970s, allowing his sons to chase their racing
21 dreams; and

22 WHEREAS, Bob Labonte's dedication to his sons' success helped Terry Labonte become a two-time
23 National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) Cup Series champion and Bobby Labonte
24 become a NASCAR Cup Series champion and NASCAR Xfinity Series champion; both have been inducted
25 into the NASCAR Hall of Fame; and

26 WHEREAS, Bob Labonte's career as a crew chief included a notable stint during Terry Labonte's 1981
27 NASCAR Cup season and extended into the NASCAR Xfinity Series from 1989 to 1997, during which time
28 he worked with several drivers, including his sons, David Green, and Jeff Fuller; and

29 WHEREAS, in addition to his role as a crew chief, Bob Labonte owned and operated Labonte
30 Motorsports, where he achieved the status of a two-time car owner champion and crew chief in the NASCAR
31 Xfinity Series; and

32 WHEREAS, Bob Labonte will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his loving wife, Martha; his
33 sons, Terry and Bobby, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore,
34 be it

35 RESOLVED, That the Senate of Virginia hereby note with great sadness the loss of Bob Labonte, a
36 NASCAR legend whose dedication to the sport leaves a legacy of excellence and commitment that will
inspire future generations of the racing community for years to come; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to
the family of Bob Labonte as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect for his memory.

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