

2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

24200310D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 784

Offered June 28, 2024

3 *Commending Rutherford Ulysses Whitfield.*

4
5 Patron—
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7 WHEREAS, after 70 years of service as a school bus driver, Rutherford Ulysses Whitfield retired from
8 Suffolk Public Schools in 2024; and

9 WHEREAS, Rutherford Whitfield was offered a job as a school bus driver while he was still a student at
10 East Suffolk High School and subsequently drove his first bus route in September 1954 when he was only 16
years old; and

11 WHEREAS, over the course of his long career, Rutherford Whitfield ensured students arrived to and from
12 school safely and efficiently, and he strove to be a positive influence in the lives of the young people in his
13 care; and

14 WHEREAS, in addition to driving a bus, Rutherford Whitfield worked in the East Suffolk High School
15 cafeteria, and at age 20, he was appointed as the director of the John F. Kennedy High School cafeteria; and

16 WHEREAS, Rutherford Whitfield later worked in the cafeteria at Sentara Obici Hospital for more than
17 three decades, while still driving his bus route; and

18 WHEREAS, Rutherford Whitfield ultimately became the longest-serving employee of Suffolk Public
19 Schools, having touched countless lives through his professionalism and enthusiasm; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Rutherford Ulysses Whitfield hereby be commended on the
21 occasion of his retirement as a school bus driver for Suffolk Public Schools; and, be it

22 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for
23 presentation to Rutherford Ulysses Whitfield as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his
24 exceptional legacy of service to young people in Suffolk.

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