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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 626

Offered February 7, 2025

Commending the Nelson County Sheriff's Office.

Patron—Laufer

WHEREAS, in 2024, the Nelson County Sheriff's Office worked with other law-enforcement agencies to investigate and disrupt an international financial exploitation scheme that had adversely affected at least one local resident; and

WHEREAS, in July 2024, a Nelson County resident whose computer had been infected with and disabled by malware was informed by an individual posing as a Microsoft employee that her identity had been compromised; and

WHEREAS, the victim was instructed by telephone to purchase a substantial quantity of gold bullion, which was subsequently collected at her home by an unknown individual; the victim became suspicious after receiving fraudulent correspondence requesting an additional purchase of gold bullion and contacted the Nelson County Sheriff's Office on August 16, 2024; and

WHEREAS, members of the Nelson County Sheriff's Office coordinated with the Virginia State Police and the Richmond Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to intercept a courier who arrived at the victim's residence to remove the second shipment of gold bullion on August 19, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Nelson County Sheriff's Office established that the courier, who was charged with multiple felonies, had entered the United States illegally; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the professionalism and hard work of the Nelson County Sheriff's Office, a member of this organized criminal enterprise was brought to justice, and residents of Nelson County gained a better understanding of how electronic fraud can affect their lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Nelson County Sheriff's Office hereby be commended for its success in disrupting an international financial exploitation ring; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Nelson County Sheriff's Office as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for its dedication to keeping Virginians safe from modern threats.

INTRODUCED

HR626