

2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

24200458D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 859

Offered April 1, 2025

Commending Jeff Friend, D.D.S.

Patrons—Wyatt, Carr, Cherry, Fowler, Owen and Ware

WHEREAS, for nearly 30 years, Jeff Friend, D.D.S., has supported the oral health and overall wellness of the Richmond community and other communities in need as the founder of RVA Dental Care; and

WHEREAS, a native of the Greater Richmond area, Jeff Friend graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University and the Medical College of Virginia School of Dentistry; he earned a Mastership Award from the Academy of General Dentistry and became a diplomate of both the International College of Oral Implantology and the American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Jeff Friend and his wife, Vicki, worked together to establish RVA Dental Care, fulfilling a longtime dream to create a dental practice based on a commitment to care, trust, and the well-being of the community; and

WHEREAS, through RVA Dental Care, Jeff Friend touched the lives of countless patients, and he has been a highly admired mentor who inspires his colleagues to achieve their fullest potential; his daughter, Izabella, has followed in his footsteps and is also studying dental hygiene; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his achievements with RVA Dental Care, Jeff Friend has enjoyed a long association with the Virginia Dental Association through its Donated Dental Services and Mission of Mercy programs, both of which provide essential dental services to people who could not otherwise afford them; and

WHEREAS, through Donated Dental Services, Jeff Friend and RVA Dental Care have provided more than \$185,000 worth of dental services, from simple restorations to complex full-mouth rehabilitations, to people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Jeff Friend also traveled to underserved communities through Mission of Mercy programs, sometimes providing service in an outdoor operating tent long into the night to ensure that people received the care they needed; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his career, Jeff Friend has demonstrated the utmost professionalism and compassion, treating patients with dignity and respect to ensure that they grow healthier and feel more confident about their smile; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Jeff Friend, D.D.S., hereby be commended for his decades of service as a leader in dental care on the occasion of his retirement; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Jeff Friend, D.D.S., as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his legacy of achievements and best wishes on his well-earned retirement.

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HR859