

# 2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 820

*Commending John Lavinder.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates July 18, 2024

WHEREAS, John Lavinder, a dedicated law-enforcement officer who helped locate numerous missing persons over the course of his 39-year career, retired as a master deputy with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office in 2024; and

WHEREAS, after joining the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, John Lavinder served in the corrections and courts divisions, but he became best known for his work as a trainer and handler of scent hounds; and

WHEREAS, John Lavinder spent 32 years as a bloodhound dog handler and earned local, state, and national acclaim for his skill as a police K9 scent training instructor; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, John Lavinder raised seven of the department's police dogs, including his current K9 partner, Jethro, a 10-year-old bloodhound who has trained in trailing human scent for most of his life; and

WHEREAS, K9 Jethro will join John Lavinder in his well-earned retirement, both having touched countless lives in and around Franklin County through their exceptional service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That John Lavinder hereby be commended on the occasion of his retirement from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to John Lavinder as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his achievements on behalf of the residents of Franklin County.

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