

2024 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

24200122D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 668

Offered May 13, 2024

Prefiled May 13, 2024

4 *Commending Lew Parker.*

5 Patron—Higgins

6 WHEREAS, Lew Parker has led an extraordinary life of service, leadership, innovation, and
7 economic generation in Loudoun County; and

9 WHEREAS, 40 years ago, Lew Parker brought wine to Loudoun County, establishing "DC's Wine
10 Country" and sparking decades of economic activity and tourism; and

11 WHEREAS, Lew Parker planted grapes in 1981, founded Willowcraft Farm Vineyards in 1983, and
12 bottled his first wine in 1984; and

13 WHEREAS, thanks to Lew Parker's dream, today, Loudoun County boasts one of the largest
14 collections of wineries and vineyards in the United States; and

15 WHEREAS, Lew Parker has instructed others in winemaking, as well as helped other wineries gain
16 their footing in Loudoun County over the past 40 years; and

17 WHEREAS, Lew Parker has frequently been honored for his winemaking and local pioneering of the
18 industry, being named 2002 Virginia Wine Person of the Year and Loudoun County's 2023 Winemaker
19 of the Year and winning the 2013 Gordon Murchie Lifetime Achievement Award; and

20 WHEREAS, Lew Parker not only battled the seasons to grow the wine industry in the
21 Commonwealth but also the regulatory burdens, shepherding Virginia wine through many policy
22 challenges and obstacles; and

23 WHEREAS, in addition to founding Loudoun County's wine industry, Lew Parker has made
24 significant contributions in the medical device industry and is credited with having improved the lives of
25 millions of individuals suffering from debilitating orthopedic conditions; and

26 WHEREAS, Lew Parker has bolstered the Loudoun County economy with more than just wine, as
27 his medical device company, K2M, is a leading technology industry employer locally; and

28 WHEREAS, Lew Parker's steadfast commitment to philanthropy also goes further than wine, as his
29 Willowcroft Science Foundation supports science-based scholarships through the Community Foundation
30 and the Loudoun Education Foundation; and

31 WHEREAS, Lew Parker, through his work, leadership, and philanthropy, has inspired, and still
32 inspires, generations to succeed and innovate in both business and science; and

33 WHEREAS, without Lew Parker, Loudoun County would not be the place it is today; now,
34 therefore, be it

35 RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Lew Parker hereby be commended on a lifetime of
36 positive impacts on Loudoun County and the Commonwealth; and, be it

37 RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution
38 for presentation to Lew Parker as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his legacy of
39 industry, ingenuity, service, and philanthropy.

INTRODUCED

HR668