

## 2003 SESSION

ENGROSSED

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 620

Offered January 8, 2003

Prefiled January 7, 2003

*Commending Marcus Baggett.*

Patron—Bell, Abbitt, Landes, and Van Yahres

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2002, Officer Marcus Baggett of the Albemarle County Police Department was on patrol when he noticed heavy black smoke coming from the rear of a restaurant; and

WHEREAS, Officer Marcus Baggett was told by an employee of the restaurant that several employees remained trapped in the smoke-filled building; and

WHEREAS, Officer Marcus Baggett entered the building and attempted to find the occupants, who were in the rear and, because of the smoke, were unable to find their way to the front doors; and

WHEREAS, using his voice and his flashlight, Officer Marcus Baggett stood in the middle of the increasingly dangerous restaurant and guided the two trapped employees to safety; and

WHEREAS, shortly thereafter, the building was destroyed as it erupted in flames; and

WHEREAS, largely due to the courageous actions of Officer Marcus Baggett, the employees of the restaurant escaped without injury; and

WHEREAS, according to Sergeant Gregory A. Jenkins of the Albemarle County Police Department, Officer Marcus Baggett's "quick thinking and dedication to public safety prevented a potentially deadly situation"; and

WHEREAS, with his selfless, decisive, and courageous action, Officer Marcus Baggett exhibited performance above and beyond the call of duty; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Officer Marcus Baggett for his swift, timely, and successful rescue of the occupants of the burning restaurant; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Officer Marcus Baggett as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for his actions.

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