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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 290

Offered February 16, 2018

Commending Otis Gene Lawson.

Patron—Kilgore

WHEREAS, Otis Gene Lawson, a distinguished veteran, a devoted volunteer, and a lifelong resident of Scott County, has made many contributions to the community; and

WHEREAS, born on January 16, 1937, to James Ezra Lawson and Ollie Hill Lawson, the seventh son of the seventh son, Otis Lawson was the first and only child of nine to graduate high school, finishing third in his graduating class at Dungannon High School in 1956; and

WHEREAS, after graduating high school, Otis Lawson proudly served his country in the 47th Infantry Division of the United States Army with five years and three months of service in Korea and Germany, and training at Fort Jackson in South Carolina, Fort Ord in California, and Fort Lewis in Washington; and

WHEREAS, after his honorable service to his country, Otis Lawson was a loyal employee of Tennessee's Eastman Kodak Company for nearly three decades, never missing a day of work or arriving late during his entire tenure with the company from 1966 to 1994; after his well-earned retirement from Eastman Kodak, he worked at Gate City Funeral Home for nine years, retiring in January 2015; and

WHEREAS, over nearly two decades of volunteerism, Otis Lawson has given nearly 10,000 hours of volunteer service to his fellow veterans, serving as assistant chaplain for the local American Legion Honor Guard; and

WHEREAS, Otis Lawson has made lasting contributions to the community through leadership and involvement in civic and service organizations, including a decade as president of the Clinch River Health Services Board, where he played an instrumental role in bringing Clinch River Health Services to Dungannon; and

WHEREAS, Otis Lawson was also a member of the Fort Blackmore Ruritan Club for 12 years, the Scott County Planning Commission for eight years, the Rural Area Development Association for eight years, the Fort Blackmore PTA for 12 years, and the Twin Springs High School Band and Athletic Booster Clubs for nine years; and

WHEREAS, Otis Lawson is a devoted family man who has been lovingly married to Mima Jean Sanders Lawson for 53 years; the couple have four children, Gregory Allen, Anthony Dwayne, Tammy Denise, and Melinda Ann, and are the proud grandparents of seven grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Otis Lawson's contributions as a volunteer, leader, veteran, father, husband, and brother have earned him the admiration of the community, including recognition as the Alumni of the Year for Dungannon High School in 2017; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Otis Gene Lawson, a respected veteran and community leader in Scott County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Otis Gene Lawson as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his lifetime of service to Scott County and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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