HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1094

Commending the Reverend Jay Lawson.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 20, 2019
Agreed to by the Senate, February 23, 2019

WHEREAS, the Reverend Jay Lawson retired as pastor of Warrenton Baptist Church after more than 18 years of service and ministry to the community on February 13, 2019; and

WHEREAS, a Hampton native and graduate of Hampton High School, Jay Lawson attended Duke University on an athletic scholarship, graduating with a bachelor's degree in religion; he also earned a master's degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, first called to the pulpit more than 40 years ago, Jay Lawson began his career as associate pastor at Temple Baptist Church in Newport News and went on to serve as pastor of Belhaven Baptist Church in Belhaven, North Carolina, Emmaus Baptist Church in Poquoson, and Hilton Baptist Church in Newport News before becoming pastor of Warrenton Baptist Church in 2000; and

WHEREAS, during his more than 18 years of service to Warrenton Baptist Church, Jay Lawson guided the congregation through periods of growth and change, including improvements to the existing church, construction of a 5,240-square-foot ministry center known as "The Gathering Place," and the addition of contemporary and Spanish-language worship services; and

WHEREAS, following his well-earned retirement, Jay Lawson plans to continue to give back to the community, mentoring young ministers and remaining active with the Baptist church; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Reverend Jay Lawson on his retirement as pastor of Warrenton Baptist Church; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Jay Lawson as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for his many years of dedicated service and ministry to the community.