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## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 825**

Offered February 5, 2019

Commending the Very Reverend John A. Weatherly.

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 Patrons—Sickles; Senators: Barker, Ebbin and Surovell

WHEREAS, the Very Reverend John A. Weatherly, a respected spiritual leader who has served the members of the Alexandria community for more than two decades, will retire as rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church on September 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS, a native of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, Reverend Weatherly graduated from the University of the South and Duke University; he then worked as an educator in Portsmouth and Charlottesville until 1978, when he answered the call to ministry and entered the Divinity School at Yale University; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, Reverend Weatherly was ordained in New Jersey and appointed as vicar of two Episcopal churches in Trenton; he went on to serve as a missionary in Brazil from 1986 to 1989, then subsequently offered his leadership to Episcopal churches in North Carolina, Connecticut, and Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Weatherly returned to the Commonwealth to serve as rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in 1997; over the course of his 21-year tenure in that role, he helped the congregation grow in spirit, offered wise counsel to members of the community, and oversaw generous outreach programs; and

WHEREAS, at the state level, Reverend Weatherly served the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia as a member of the Hispanic Church Plant Committee and the Executive Committee, and he currently serves as a region dean; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Weatherly served his country as a longtime member of the Chaplain Corps of the United States Army, deploying to Bosnia in 2001 with the 29th Infantry Division and Iraq in 2006 - 2007 with the Virginia National Guard's 224th Aviation Regiment and 1st Marine Expeditionary Force; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Very Reverend John A. Weatherly for his 21 years of service to the congregation of St. Mark's Episcopal Church on the occasion of his retirement as rector; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Very Reverend John A. Weatherly as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his exceptional contributions to the Alexandria community.