

## 2023 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 813

*Commending the Washington County Agriculture Appreciation Event.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 21, 2023

Agreed to by the Senate, February 23, 2023

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2023, the Washington County Agriculture Appreciation Event will honor local farmers and agriculture professionals and highlight the contributions of the agriculture sector to Washington County and beyond; and

WHEREAS, agriculture is the largest industry in Washington County with a local economic impact of more than \$400 million; and

WHEREAS, Washington County accounts for over \$69 million in agriculture products sold each year and is the largest egg producer in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, farmers in Washington County pay between \$8 million and \$9 million in wages each year, and dealers sell approximately \$90 million in farming equipment each year; and

WHEREAS, agriculture in Washington County is a community effort involving farmers, suppliers, students, volunteers, and a wide range of specialists and other professionals; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Supervisors and the Washington County School Board are both supportive of the local agriculture industry and have incorporated National Future Farmers of America (FFA) Organization programs, as well as agricultural components in K-12 education; and

WHEREAS, organized by the agriculture advisory committees of the Washington County Board of Supervisors and the Washington County Chamber of Commerce, the Washington County Agriculture Appreciation Event will be held at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center and will feature keynote speaker Ray Starling; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Washington County Agriculture Appreciation Event for promoting and celebrating the significance of agriculture in Washington County; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Washington County Agriculture Appreciation Event as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for the importance of the agricultural sector to Washington County and communities around the Commonwealth.

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