

2023 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 824

Offered February 20, 2023

Commending Josh Sweat.

Patrons—Hayes, Clark, Delaney, Hope, Lopez, Rasoul, Seibold, Simonds, Ware and Watts; Senators: Hanger, Howell, Reeves, Spruill and Vogel

WHEREAS, Josh Sweat, a native of Chesapeake who currently plays defensive end for the Philadelphia Eagles in the National Football League, competed in Super Bowl LVII on February 12, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Josh Sweat was a member of the Oscar F. Smith High School football team in Chesapeake that won the Virginia High School League AAA Division 6 state championship in 2011 and that was runner-up in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Josh Sweat tallied 94 tackles and 22 sacks during his junior year at Oscar F. Smith High School and was widely regarded as one of the top high school recruits in the country when he suffered a season-ending injury in the third game of his senior year; and

WHEREAS, demonstrating extraordinary grit and determination, Josh Sweat battled back from his injury to start for Florida State University in his first year with the team; he went on to play three seasons with the Florida State Seminoles from 2015 to 2017, leading the team in sacks in his final year and making the watch list for the Football Writers Association of America's Bronko Nagurski Trophy for best defensive player in the National Collegiate Athletic Association; and

WHEREAS, Josh Sweat was selected 130th overall by the Philadelphia Eagles in the 2018 National Football League Draft and has been a dominating presence on the gridiron over his five seasons with the team; and

WHEREAS, Josh Sweat has developed into one of the top defensive ends in the National Football League, earning a trip to the Pro Bowl in the 2021-2022 season and posting career high numbers in sacks and total tackles in the 2022-2023 season; and

WHEREAS, Josh Sweat's appearance in Super Bowl LVII marks the first time an Oscar F. Smith High School alumnus has reached football's highest stage, providing inspiration and motivation to countless young athletes in Chesapeake and throughout the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Josh Sweat, a Chesapeake native and a premier defensive end in the National Football League, for competing in Super Bowl LVII in 2023; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Josh Sweat as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his achievements and best wishes for his continued success.

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