

Legislation Text

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Honoring 6ABC Action News' Jim Gardner upon his upcoming retirement and recognizing his years of service to the people of Philadelphia and the region to whom he delivered urgent news and information every day since 1976.

WHEREAS, In November of 2021, James "Jim" Gardner, lead anchor at 6ABC Action News announced he plans to retire by the end of 2022; and

WHEREAS, Jim has been a presence on 6ABC, helping to propel the broadcast to the number one spot, for over four decades; and

WHEREAS, Jim was born and raised in New York City before coming to Philadelphia for his career. He received his degree from Columbia University in 1970. At Columbia, he first began work in communications reporting on the history-making riots at the University in 1968; and

WHEREAS, After college, Jim's career started at WINS Radio in New York and then at WAFS Radio in White Plains. He began his television broadcast work in 1974 at WKBW-TV in Buffalo, New York; and

WHEREAS, On June 1, 1976, Jim Gardner joined WPVI-TV in Philadelphia as a reporter and anchor of Action News at Noon. On May 11, 1977, he assumed his current position of anchor of Action News at 6pm and 11pm; and

WHEREAS, Jim has covered historical moments in Philadelphia's history, including the MOVE bombing, two visits by the Pope and the rises of countless local figures from sports stars to politicians. He is known for his calm and thoughtful delivery of the news and his charming sense of humor when things go wrong as is inevitable in a live broadcast; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his coverage of the news, and the many remarkable stories he has delivered, Gardner is most proud of his longevity and consistency, being there at 6 and 11 day in and day out; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his work in broadcast, Jim is active in philanthropy and gives back to the city. He is particularly proud of the fact that one broadcast journalism student at Temple University has been awarded the Jim Gardner Scholarship to help pay for his or her education every year since 1987; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA, DOES hereby honor 6ABC Action News' Jim Gardner upon his upcoming retirement and recognizes his years of service to the people of Philadelphia and the region to whom he delivered urgent news and information every day since 1976.