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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 144

Offered January 28, 2004

Commending William E. Ward.

Patrons—Blevins, Lucas, Miller and Quayle; Delegates: Cosgrove, Howell, A.T., Joannou, Jones, S.C., Melvin, Spruill and Suit

WHEREAS, William E. Ward, a retired professor of history at Norfolk State University, a member of the Chesapeake City Council since 1978, and the mayor of Chesapeake since 1990, will retire on July 1, 2004; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Virginia State College (now University), William Ward earned a master's degree at Virginia State, another at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, and a doctorate in American and African History at Clark University; and

WHEREAS, a former teacher in the Portsmouth, Baltimore, Maryland, and Norfolk public schools, William Ward joined the faculty of Norfolk State University in 1973 as an associate professor of history; and

WHEREAS, William Ward served as professor of history from 1980 to 1997, as chair of the history department from 1997 to 2000, and retired from Norfolk State University as professor emeritus in July 2001; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the Chesapeake City Council for more than 25 years, and as mayor for nearly 15, William Ward has served the citizens of Chesapeake with great dedication and effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, William Ward has served on dozens of committees, boards, and commissions at the local, state, and national levels, including the United States Conference of Mayors, the Tidewater Regional Health Council, the Virginia Municipal League, the Hampton Roads Partnership, and the National League of Cities; and

WHEREAS, William Ward has also given generously of his time and energy to worthy causes, including the Norfolk-Chesapeake-Virginia Beach United Way, the Tidewater Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and the National Fatherhood Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the recipient of numerous awards for his outstanding public service, William Ward has been honored by, among many others, Old Dominion University, Virginia State University, the Chamber of Commerce, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews, and

WHEREAS, for more than 25 years, William Ward has served the citizens of Chesapeake and Hampton Roads with effective leadership and for nearly 30 years served the students of Norfolk State University as a professor, counselor, role model, and mentor; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend William E. Ward on the occasion of his retirement from the Chesapeake City Council; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to William E. Ward as an expression of the admiration, respect, and gratitude of the General Assembly.