

2006 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 488

Commending Colonel Ethel S. Underwood.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 10, 2006

Agreed to by the Senate, March 11, 2006

WHEREAS, retired United States Air Force Reserve Colonel Ethel S. Underwood, a respected and compassionate senior citizen, is recognized by Senior Services of Alexandria for her outstanding community service; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Underwood will be honored at the Senior Services of Alexandria's Spring Gala, "Honoring the Best," on March 31, 2006, at the Radisson Hotel, Old Town Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, Senior Services of Alexandria was founded in 1968 by area social activists to address age discrimination in employment and to support the unique talents of seniors as a resource for the city; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Senior Services of Alexandria has become a full-service community organization with more than 30 years' experience dedicated to helping Alexandria's seniors; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Underwood, the organization's 2006 honoree, is the first African-American woman to achieve the rank of colonel in the United States Air Force Reserve, and is one of the earliest of all African-American women to achieve that rank in the military; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Underwood earned an undergraduate degree in nursing and a master's degree in public health from Columbia University; and

WHEREAS, after her retirement from the military in 1985, Colonel Underwood became director of nursing at Woodbine Nursing and Convalescent Center; served on the boards of Alexandria Hospital, now Inova Health System, and Hopkins House; served as chair of the Alexandria Commission on Aging; and was a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Underwood has been honored by numerous civic organizations, including the NAACP's Community Service Award, the AARP's Volunteer of the Year award, the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Bureau's Volunteer of the Year award, the Alfred Street Baptist Church Volunteer Service award, the Northern Virginia Urban League's Community Service Award, the Florence Price Community Service Award, the Alexandria Commission on Aging's Excellence in Aging award, and the Commission for Women's Margaret Payez Leadership Award; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Colonel Ethel S. Underwood for her well-deserved recognition by Senior Services of Alexandria; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Colonel Ethel S. Underwood as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for her many accomplishments and her outstanding service to the citizens of the City of Alexandria.

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