

2007 SESSION

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 315

Offered January 10, 2007

Prefiled November 6, 2006

Commending Hortense Williams.

Patron—Miller

WHEREAS, Hortense Williams, a barber in the City of Norfolk for 50 years, is recognized for her outstanding service to the community; and

WHEREAS, after attending Saint Paul's College in Lawrenceville for three years in an industrial education curriculum, Hortense Williams, unsure of her future career path, first began working in barber salons, performing facials and manicures; and

WHEREAS, armed with a strength of will and a pioneering spirit, Hortense Williams decided to go into the barbering business for herself at 908 Church Street in Norfolk, catering to Navy personnel and merchant seaman; and

WHEREAS, when her clientele began to diminish, Hortense Williams searched out and fortunately found a prime location in the center of Norfolk at the Downtown Plaza, where she enjoyed a lucrative business for the next 40 years; and

WHEREAS, a hardworking and savvy entrepreneur, Hortense Williams became a very successful businesswoman in the predominantly male profession of barbering; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 the strip shopping center in the Downtown Plaza closed, and the familiar landmark of Hortense's Barber Salon moved to its new home at Church Street and Brambleton Avenue; and

WHEREAS, an entire wall area in the salon is devoted to mementos of the countless businessmen, educators, doctors, clergymen, and other cherished clients who Hortense Williams and her employees have served with skill and professionalism over the years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend and congratulate Hortense Williams for her 50 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the City of Norfolk; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Hortense Williams as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her many years of commitment to the vitality of downtown Norfolk.

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