2008 SESSION

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 145

Commending Doug Oldham.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 31, 2008 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 1, 2008

WHEREAS, Doug Oldham is a legendary gospel singer who has made enormous contributions to the development and dispersion of Christian music; and

WHEREAS, internationally known, with fans from Canada to Holland to all across England, where he once sang for the Queen, Doug Oldham first traveled with evangelist Benny Hinn and the Billy Graham Crusades, filling auditoriums across the country; and

WHEREAS, Doug Oldham has the unique ability to touch people at a personal level with his singing, and over the years he has received hundreds—maybe thousands—of letters, wherein people tell him what one of his songs has meant to them at a particular time in their lives; and

WHEREAS, during his long and prolific career, Doug Oldham has recorded more than 64 albums, has sung for five presidents, and has earned two Dove awards from the Gospel Music Association; and

WHEREAS, in November 2006, Doug Oldham was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in Nashville, in a moving ceremony attended by his family and many good friends from the world of gospel music; and

WHEREAS, the awards continued in 2007 as Doug Oldham received the first-ever Lifetime Champion Award from Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg for his years of Christian service there; and

WHEREAS, in October 2007, Doug Oldham received two honors at Liberty University: first, a remodeled room in the Fine Arts building was named Oldham Recital Hall, and then the Doug Oldham Music Scholarship program was established by an anonymous donor; and

WHEREAS, these various awards are a recognition of the prestige and visibility Doug Oldham has brought to gospel music both nationally and locally at Thomas Road Baptist Church and Liberty University; and

WHEREAS, while he appreciates the awards and the recognition that comes with them, Doug Oldham feels his top accomplishment in life is helping people connect with the Lord, and he says his favorite song is whatever reaches out to people to challenge them to serve the Lord; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Doug Oldham for his many contributions to gospel music; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Doug Oldham as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his talent and his dedication to sharing the beauty and message of gospel music with people in the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world.