SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 470

Commending Robert T. Williams.

Agreed to by the Senate, February 17, 2011 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 22, 2011

WHEREAS, Robert T. Williams, a well-respected real estate developer and generous contributor to the civic life of Portsmouth, was chosen as the First Citizen of Portsmouth on January 18, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the First Citizen of Portsmouth award, given by the Portsmouth Service League, is the city's highest award and recognizes those "individuals who embody the spirit of citizenship through service to the community"; and

WHEREAS, an exemplary administrator, Robert "Bob" Williams served as the former city manager of both Newport News and Portsmouth, where he worked diligently to ensure the efficient and effective operation of local government to meet the needs of local residents; and

WHEREAS, after leaving local government, Bob Williams embarked on a visionary entrepreneurial career as the president and CEO of Tri-City Developers, LLC, developing and managing projects that have contributed greatly to the economic development of Portsmouth and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, mindful of the needs of the community, Bob Williams has dedicated significant time, energy, and resources to many worthy organizations in the area; and

WHEREAS, Bob Williams is currently a member of the Oasis Planning and Development Committee and provided thoughtful guidance and insight in the construction of the new Oasis Social Ministry building; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to the growth and development of the Hampton Roads area and the well-being and health of its residents, Bob Williams was the director of the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce and Bon Secours Hampton Roads Health System, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Bob Williams currently serves the community through his involvement with the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation, Tidewater Community College Educational Foundation Board, Portsmouth Partnership, and many other organizations; and

WHEREAS, Bob Williams' extraordinary generosity to the community has included the donation of an indoor baseball facility complete with equipment to Churchland High School from the foundation formed in his son's memory; and

WHEREAS, a man of great integrity, compassion, and dedication, Bob Williams is a worthy recipient of the prestigious First Citizen Award, which will be presented to him at a banquet in his honor on April 14, 2011; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Robert T. Williams on his well-deserved selection as the 2010 First Citizen of Portsmouth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Robert T. Williams as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for his commitment to his fellow residents and the Portsmouth community.