SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 195

Commending the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 1, 2012 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 6, 2012

WHEREAS, created in 1971 by the action of the General Assembly and by resolution of the City Councils of Hampton and Newport News, the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board has provided a comprehensive continuum of services and supports promoting prevention, recovery, and self-determination for people affected by mental illness, substance use, and intellectual and developmental disabilities while advancing the well-being of the communities it serves; and

WHEREAS, the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board is considered the premier provider of behavioral health care and intellectual and developmental disability services, recognized throughout Virginia for its leadership, excellence, and commitment to service, and has earned this distinction by creating a community where people can find their own strength and become self-determining; and

WHEREAS, operating on a local level and being accountable to local government, the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board is uniquely qualified to provide rapid, flexible, and accessible services to the individuals served, and their families; and

WHEREAS, directly and contractually operated programs of the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board have significantly contributed to the improved quality of life on the Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, by working in partnership with individuals served, family members, advocates, and other local service agencies, the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board has provided assistance to those citizens least able to care for themselves, enabling them to become vital, contributing members of society; and

WHEREAS, for more than 40 years, many dedicated citizen volunteers have represented the Cities of Hampton and Newport News on the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board, which has built an enviable record of providing high-quality services to the citizens of these and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board was the first community services board in the Commonwealth to pursue and achieve the benchmark of national accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF); and

WHEREAS, the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board has consistently demonstrated its commitment to excellence by establishing a dynamic, innovative, and visionary service delivery system in partnership with individuals served and their families; and

WHEREAS, the staff members of the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board have worked to create model programs, such as the Southeastern Family Project, the Health Planning Region V Reinvestment Project, the Program of Assertive Community Treatment, the Hampton and Newport News Adult Drug Court Treatment Programs, Lassen House, Community Resource Center, In-Home and Mentoring Services, Creative Options Day Services, Partial Hospitalization, the Crisis Stabilization Unit, Crisis Intervention Team Training, Therapeutic Day Treatment Services, and other programs that have gained both statewide and national recognition; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board for its more than 40 years of exemplary service to the citizens of the Peninsula; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Steven L. Brown, chair of the Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board, as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation for its more than 40 years of fine work and dedication to the betterment of the lives of the citizens of the Commonwealth.