SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 210

Celebrating the life of Lawrence Garnell Stamps, Sr.

Agreed to by the Senate, March 4, 2014 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 5, 2014

WHEREAS, Lawrence Garnell Stamps, Sr., a respected educator, devoted friend, and leader in Lynchburg's civil rights movement, died on February 28, 2014; and

WHEREAS, a native of Lynchburg, Garnell Stamps graduated from Dunbar High School and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 1959; he conducted graduate studies at the University of Virginia and Lynchburg College; and

WHEREAS, Garnell Stamps prepared the youth of the community for higher education, careers, and responsible citizenship as an English teacher in Lynchburg City Schools; he guided and mentored countless children even after his retirement; and

WHEREAS, throughout his professional career, Garnell Stamps served as a television talk show host, a public relations consultant, and an educational consultant; and

WHEREAS, Garnell Stamps was a recognized advocate for social justice and a visible and active leader of the civil rights movement in Lynchburg; and

WHEREAS, Garnell Stamps forged deep friendships in the community and encouraged understanding and respect across ideological lines; he worked with a former mayor of Lynchburg to create the Community Dialogue on Race and Racism, which continues to this day; and

WHEREAS, Garnell Stamps proudly participated in the March on Washington in 1963 along with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; he returned to the nation's capital in 2013 for the 50th anniversary of the march; and

WHEREAS, admired for his keen intellect and passionate oratory, Garnell Stamps conducted leadership workshops and presentations for the General Electric Company and at colleges and universities throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, Garnell Stamps generously donated his time and wise leadership to many civic and service organizations; he received countless awards and accolades for his achievements in bettering the community and advancing the cause of civil rights and for his professional accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, predeceased by his wife, Dorothy, Garnell Stamps will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his children, Robin, Lawrence, Jr., Gregory, and Antony, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Lawrence Garnell Stamps, Sr., an educator, civil rights activist, and pillar of the Lynchburg community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Lawrence Garnell Stamps, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.