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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 141

Offered January 13, 2016

Prefiled January 13, 2016

*Commending George Y. Birdsong.*

Patron—Jones

WHEREAS, George Y. Birdsong, chair of the Obici Healthcare Foundation, has dedicated his life to improving the health and wellness of all Hampton Roads residents through generous volunteer work and philanthropy; and

WHEREAS, George Birdsong has been active in many Suffolk-based civic organizations, including the Obici Healthcare Foundation, Suffolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce, Suffolk Foundation, United Way of South Hampton Roads, Suffolk Family YMCA, Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts, and Nansemond-Suffolk Academy; and

WHEREAS, George Birdsong was the founding chair of the Obici Healthcare Foundation and has led the organization for 10 years, making measurable improvements to the region's overall health, particularly in the areas of access to basic health care, obesity prevention, chronic disease management, and insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, under George Birdsong's leadership, the Obici Healthcare Foundation has awarded over \$36 million in grant funding that served more than 373,000 people; and

WHEREAS, George Birdsong's commitment to regional volunteerism is evident through his work with Virginia Wesleyan College, Virginia Manufacturers Association, Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Nansemond River Preservation Alliance, and Business Consortium for Arts Support; and

WHEREAS, George Birdsong has received numerous awards and accolades for his volunteerism, including the Lenora Mathews Lifetime Achievement Award from Volunteer Hampton Roads, which pays tribute to individuals and groups that have volunteered their time and talents to support worthy causes in Hampton Roads; and

WHEREAS, George Birdsong has also led an effort to combat childhood malnutrition internationally by partnering with Project Peanut Butter and other organizations; he has been credited for being able to "see value a decade out; he's someone who is considered a visionary"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend George Y. Birdsong for his service to the health care community and the Commonwealth as chair of the Obici Healthcare Foundation; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to George Y. Birdsong as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his devotion to enhancing the lives of others in Hampton Roads and throughout the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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