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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 166

Offered January 14, 2016

Commending the Reverend Leon Webster Baylor, Sr.

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Patrons—Ransone; Senators: McDougle and Stuart

WHEREAS, the Reverend Leon Webster Baylor, Sr., a spiritual leader, educator, and respected member of the Northern Neck community, celebrated his 100th birthday on October 21, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a native of Philadelphia, Leon Baylor was reared in King William County; as a child of the Great Depression, he learned the value of hard work at a young age and worked to support himself through college; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Virginia Union University, where he became a proud member of Phi Beta Sigma service fraternity, Leon Baylor answered his calling to serve the community through ministry; and

WHEREAS, Leon Baylor pastored five churches throughout the Northern Neck, and he remained an active leader in the faith community even after his retirement, serving as president of the Northern Neck Baptist Association Ministers' Conference and as an interim pastor when called upon; and

WHEREAS, Leon Baylor imparted his passion for lifelong learning to youth as a teacher at schools in the Northern Neck, Herndon, and Baltimore, Maryland; he also served as supervisor of boys at the Virginia State School for Colored Deaf and Blind Children in Newport News; and

WHEREAS, seeking to further enhance the quality of life of his fellow community members, Leon Baylor sat on the advisory board of the Education/Literacy Program of Richmond County and supported the Richmond County Volunteer Rescue Squad; and

WHEREAS, Leon Baylor and his wife, Elsie, have been married for 44 years and are the proud and loving parents of five children, 10 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Reverend Leon Webster Baylor, Sr., on the occasion of his 100th birthday; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Leon Webster Baylor, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his spiritual leadership and dedicated service to the residents of the Commonwealth.