ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 544

Commending Lena Wyche-Clark.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 2018
Agreed to by the Senate, March 9, 2018

WHEREAS, Lena Wyche-Clark, a beloved member of the Hampton community, will celebrate her 100th birthday on April 2, 2018; and

WHEREAS, born in 1918 to Jesse and Virginia Parham-Wyche, Lena Wyche-Clark grew up in Drewryville and Capron and learned the value of hard work and responsibility at a young age on her family's farm; and

WHEREAS, the ninth of 12 children, Lena Wyche-Clark was the first of her family to receive a formal education, attending one-room schools for African Americans; and

WHEREAS, in 1948, Lena Wyche-Clark moved to New York City, where she lived for the next 44 years and worked as a housekeeper and caterer; while working as a caterer, she served food to Lyndon B. Johnson and Richard M. Nixon, two of the 18 United States Presidents to serve the nation in her lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Lena Wyche-Clark began to cultivate her deep and abiding faith at a young age, and she enjoyed fellowship and worship with many communities in New York and Virginia; she focused on church leadership and performing missionary work after her well-earned retirement in 1992; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, Lena Wyche-Clark relocated to Hampton, where she is currently the eldest resident of Sinclair Commons and is highly admired for her wisdom and grace; and

WHEREAS, Lena Wyche-Clark is the proud matriarch of a large family, including her five children, Jean Marie, Delores, Fred, Jr., Russell, and Carolyn, and their families, as well as more than 50 nieces and nephews; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Lena Wyche-Clark on the occasion of her 100th birthday; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Lena Wyche-Clark as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her long life well-lived and best wishes.