

# 2018 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 634

*Commending the Reverend Dr. Joan S. Parrott.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, May 30, 2018

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Reverend Dr. Joan S. Parrott became the first woman in the 154-year history of First Baptist Church of Hampton to be elected as senior pastor; and

WHEREAS, a native of Newark, New Jersey, Joan Parrott holds degrees from Montclair State University in New Jersey, Union Theological Seminary in New York, and United Theological Seminary in Ohio, as well as post-graduate certificates from the Ecumenical Institute of Bossey in Switzerland and Harvard University; and

WHEREAS, Joan Parrott became the first woman ordained as a minister at her home church, Bethany Baptist Church in Newark, and she went on to teach and consult with clergy throughout the United States and the world, even receiving a private audience with Pope John Paul II; and

WHEREAS, Joan Parrott volunteered her wise leadership with American Baptist Churches USA as deputy general secretary for cooperative Christianity and director of the board of International Ministries Missionary Recruitment and Volunteer Services Program; and

WHEREAS, Joan Parrott previously served as executive pastor and interim senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Hampton; she was elected senior pastor on September 29, 2017, and was installed as pastor in March 2018; and

WHEREAS, an exemplar of servant-leadership, Joan Parrott strives for a life defined by humility, compassion, integrity, and excellence, and her vast experience in church administration and wise spiritual guidance will help First Baptist Church of Hampton grow in faith and membership; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Reverend Dr. Joan S. Parrott hereby be commended on her historic selection as senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Hampton; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Dr. Joan S. Parrott as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for her contributions to the Hampton community.

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