

2021 SPECIAL SESSION I

INTRODUCED

21200549D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 602

Offered February 24, 2021

Celebrating the life of the Reverend Dr. Kenneth E. Dennis, Sr.

Patrons—McQuinn, Adams, D.M., Ayala, Bagby, Bourne, Carr, Cole, J.G., Cole, M.L., Convirs-Fowler, Delaney, Fowler, Hayes, Heretick, Hope, Hurst, Jenkins, Keam, Kory, Levine, Marshall, Mundon King, Murphy, Rasoul, Reid, Simon, Simonds, VanValkenburg, Ware and Willett

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Kenneth E. Dennis, Sr., a religious leader who made many contributions to the Richmond community, died on February 18, 2021; and

WHEREAS, a native of Miami, Florida, Kenneth Dennis began to cultivate his deep faith at a young age as a member of Greater Israel Primitive Baptist Church and later joined Star of Bethlehem Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Dennis graduated from Miami Beach Senior High School, then served his country honorably as a member of the United States Air Force; he continued his education by earning a bachelor's degree from Virginia Union University, a master of divinity degree from Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, and an honorary doctorate from the Richmond Virginia Seminary; and

WHEREAS, after answering the call to ministry in the late 1970s, Kenneth Dennis was ordained in 1980 and served as a youth minister at Thirty-First Street Baptist Church in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Kenneth Dennis became pastor of Greater Mount Moriah Baptist Church, serving and inspiring members of the Richmond community in that capacity for more than three decades; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Dennis held leadership positions in the Tuckahoe Baptist Association and the Henrico Minister's Conference; he served as the International Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows lecturer for the Baptist General Convention of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Dennis mentored aspiring ministers as a teacher at the Richmond Virginia Seminary and the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology and engaged with individuals throughout Richmond and the Commonwealth as an author and the co-host of religious television programming; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Dennis served the community as president of the Richmond Branch of the NAACP, a chaplain for the Richmond Police Department, and a grief counselor for the City of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth Dennis will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Loretta; his sons, KJ and Kendall, and their families; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of the Reverend Dr. Kenneth E. Dennis, Sr., a dedicated faith and community leader in Richmond; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of the Reverend Dr. Kenneth E. Dennis, Sr., as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

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