

## 2021 SPECIAL SESSION II

ENROLLED

### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 745

*Commending the Reverend Dr. Joe B. Fleming.*

Agreed to by the Senate, August 5, 2021

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Joe B. Fleming, a pastor emeritus of Third Baptist Church in Portsmouth, offered wise spiritual counsel and community leadership to congregations throughout the Commonwealth for more than 50 years; and

WHEREAS, Joe Fleming attended Bishop College in Texas and led efforts with several fellow members of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and other students to desegregate public facilities in Marshall, Texas; and

WHEREAS, Joe Fleming continued his education at the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology of Virginia Union University, United Theological Seminary in Ohio, and the Boston University School of Theology; and

WHEREAS, in 1963, Joe Fleming began a long and fulfilling career as a pastor at Antioch Baptist Church in Mathews County; he subsequently served as senior pastor of Quioccasin Baptist Church in Richmond, then retired as pastor emeritus of Third Baptist Church after 35 years of service to the Portsmouth community; and

WHEREAS, Joe Fleming is a past president of the Tidewater Metro Baptist Ministers' Conference of Virginia, now the Metro Ministers' Conference; he has also offered his leadership to the Portsmouth Branch of the NAACP, the Salvation Army of Portsmouth, the Urban League of Hampton Roads, the Center for Community Development, Inc., the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority, and the Virginia Port Authority, among other civic and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, Joe Fleming earned numerous awards and accolades over the course of his career, including a 2011 Humanitarian Award from the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities and the Pastor of the Year Award from the Metro Ministers' Conference; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Reverend Dr. Joe B. Fleming hereby be commended for his legacy of service to religious communities throughout the Commonwealth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Dr. Joe B. Fleming as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for his wise spiritual leadership.

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