

2022 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 161

Offered January 26, 2022

Commending the Reverend Bobby Raye Huntley.

Patrons—Convirs-Fowler, Davis, Hope, Rasoul, Reid and Simonds; Senators: Edwards and Howell

WHEREAS, the Reverend Bobby Raye Huntley, the founder and pastor of Test of Faith Ministries in Virginia Beach, who has been a valued mentor to hundreds of students over his nearly two decade career with Virginia Beach City Public Schools, retired on October 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, prior to his career in education, Bobby Huntley served his country with courage and valor as a member of the United States Marine Corps for more than 13 years, until he was honorably discharged in June 1992; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Huntley's educational pursuits included bachelor's degrees in religion and sociology from Saint Leo University, which have greatly informed his work as a pastor, mentor, and educator; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Huntley's legacy as an educator includes his character development mentoring program, The Gentlemen's Club, which he founded and implemented at several schools within the Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS) division to encourage students to have a greater sense of pride and respect for themselves and others; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Huntley mentored more than 600 students through The Gentlemen's Club over his distinguished 19-year career with VBCPS, guiding each toward a more successful and fulfilling future; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Huntley is an accomplished author of five books whose recent titles include *Mothers Please*, a self-help book for single mothers raising sons without the support of positive male role models, and *The Gentlemen's Club*, a tutorial for starting a mentor program; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Huntley founded Test of Faith Ministries in Virginia Beach and has served as its pastor for many years, providing his parishioners with sage and inspiring spiritual guidance; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Huntley's remarkable efforts have been recognized through numerous awards over the years, including the People Taking Action Humanitarian Award from the broadcaster WTKR News 3 in 2018; he was named VBCPS Assistant of the Year in 2013 and his school's Teacher Assistant of the Year three times; and

WHEREAS, through his steadfast dedication to the well-being of his students and the community, Bobby Huntley has had a positive and lasting impact on countless lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Reverend Bobby Raye Huntley, cherished mentor and educator with Virginia Beach City Public Schools, on the occasion of his retirement; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Bobby Raye Huntley as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his contributions to the Commonwealth.

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