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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 170

Offered January 31, 2022

Commending Costella B. Williams.

Patrons—Scott, D.L., Carr, Clark, Convirs-Fowler, Hayes, Hope, Mundon King, Rasoul, Reid and Ware; Senator: Lucas

WHEREAS, Costella B. Williams greatly served the community of Portsmouth for many years as a member of the Portsmouth School Board and as a supervisor with the Portsmouth Department of Behavioral Healthcare Services; and

WHEREAS, prior to her career, Costella Williams graduated from Prince George County High School and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Virginia State University in 1973; and

WHEREAS, Costella Williams assisted countless residents of Portsmouth with mental health, intellectual disability, and substance abuse needs and other issues throughout her illustrious 31-year career with the Portsmouth Department of Behavioral Healthcare Services, retiring on June 30, 2015, as a supervisor; and

WHEREAS, Costella Williams supported the growth and development of the children of Portsmouth as a member of the Portsmouth School Board from 2008 to 2022, working tirelessly to ensure their success both in and out the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Costella Williams' outsized impact on the community is the result of her involvement with numerous educational, humanitarian, and civic organizations, including the Portsmouth Schools Foundation, H.E.R. Shelter, Optimist International, and the Portsmouth chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., which she served as president; and

WHEREAS, Costella Williams' commitment to serving others has extended to many aspects of her life and she is an active member of The Moles, Inc., The Portsmouth Links, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and Grove Baptist Church in Portsmouth; and

WHEREAS, Costella Williams has received a plethora of accolades over the years in recognition of her extraordinary efforts on behalf of the community, including being named Distinguished Mother for the Mid-Atlantic region of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., and receiving the Dr. Hugo A. Owens, Sr. Humanitarian Award from Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, as Costella Williams has retired from her roles with the Portsmouth Department of Behavioral Health Services and the Portsmouth School Board, she has found more opportunities to spend quality time with her husband, Junius; her daughters, Tiffani and Angela; and her granddaughters, Gabrielle and Alisia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Costella B. Williams for her years of meritorious service with the Portsmouth Department of Behavioral Health Services and the Portsmouth School Board; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Costella B. Williams as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her contributions to the Commonwealth.