

## 2022 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 212

*Celebrating the life of Robert Emerson Stephens.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 11, 2022

WHEREAS, Robert Emerson Stephens, an influential member of the Suffolk community who made many contributions to his fellow residents, died on December 21, 2021; and

WHEREAS, a native of Marianna, Arkansas, Robert Stephens served his country as a member of the United States Coast Guard, was an education and training consultant to the United States Department of Labor, and served as an advisor to a former United States president; and

WHEREAS, Robert Stephens worked as the president and chief executive officer of Genesis Development and Consulting Services and later established the Saint Paul's Community Development Corporation; and

WHEREAS, Robert Stephens served the Suffolk community as a member of the Suffolk Cultural Arts Center, Western Tidewater Free Clinic, and the Suffolk Humane Society, and Suffolk Rotary Club, the Virginia Military Institute Board of Visitors, and the College Orientation Workshop Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, among many awards and accolades, Robert Stephens received the 2012 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award and the 2014 Community Hero Award from the Suffolk Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, Robert Stephens enjoyed fellowship and worship with the congregations of Mount Sinai Baptist Church in Suffolk and Main Street Baptist Church in Smithfield; and

WHEREAS, Robert Stephens will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife of 27 years, Karen; his sons, Fletcher and Frank, 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 Robert Emerson Stephens, a highly admired community leader in Suffolk; 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 Robert Emerson Stephens as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

ENROLLED

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