

2023 SESSION

INTRODUCED

23106039D

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 339

Offered February 16, 2023

Celebrating the life of the Reverend Dr. William Alexander Jenkins.

Patrons—McQuinn, Bagby, Carr, Clark, Guzman, Hope, Kory, Lopez, Maldonado, Rasoul, Seibold, Simonds, Ware and Watts

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. William Alexander Jenkins, longtime pastor of New Bridge Baptist Church in Richmond and interim pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church in Wicomico and First Antioch Baptist Church in Powhatan, died on May 25, 2022; and

WHEREAS, born in Hertford, North Carolina, and baptized at Galatia Baptist Church in Seaboard, North Carolina, William Jenkins moved with his family to Brooklyn, New York, when he was 15 years of age, where he joined Cornerstone Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, William Jenkins was licensed to preach under the pastorate of Dr. Sandy F. Ray at Cornerstone Baptist Church, and he received a bachelor's degree from what is today Virginia University of Lynchburg in 1962; and

WHEREAS, William Jenkins was ordained in 1971 and became the pastor at New Bridge Baptist Church, leading the congregation in establishing a food ministry, a men and women's fellowship, a community outreach program, and a child care center over the years and in relocating to a new church building in 2004; and

WHEREAS, William Jenkins furthered his divinity studies, earning a master of divinity degree from what is now the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University in 1974 and a doctoral degree in divinity from Infinity Bible Seminary in 2005; and

WHEREAS, in addition to New Bridge Baptist Church, William Jenkins lent his services to Mount Olive Baptist Church and First Antioch Baptist Church, providing the congregations with uplifting spiritual guidance and abundant opportunities for community outreach; and

WHEREAS, William Jenkins was a highly involved member of the Greater Richmond community, participating with various organizations, including the Baptist Ministers' Conference of Richmond and Vicinity, the Star of the East Baptist Association, the Interfaith Services of Henrico, and the Henrico County branch of the NAACP; and

WHEREAS, William Jenkins will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his loving wife of 31 years, Margaret; his children, Desiree and Sharon, 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. William Alexander Jenkins, a cherished faith leader whose selfless devotion to serving others touched countless lives; 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. William Alexander Jenkins as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

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