

1998 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 32

Offered March 13, 1998

Commending Dr. Hugo Armstrong Owens, Sr.

Patrons—Lucas, Edwards, Holland, Houck, Howell, Maxwell, Miller, Y.B., Reasor, Reynolds, Saslaw, Ticer and Whipple

WHEREAS, Dr. Hugo Armstrong Owens, Sr., has been named the Gamma Delta Omega Citizen of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Hugo Owens, a native of Norfolk County (now the City of Chesapeake), earned his undergraduate degree in biochemistry from Virginia State College (now University) and graduated cum laude from the Howard University College of Dentistry; and

WHEREAS, a practicing dentist in Portsmouth for many years, Dr. Owens helped a small group of Portsmouth activists during the 1950s who were working to open public facilities to African-Americans and to eliminate the poll tax; and

WHEREAS, a few years later, in the 1960s, Dr. Owens ran for a seat on the Chesapeake City Council, where he served for 10 years, including eight years as vice mayor; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Owens has served as member of the Virginia State University board of visitors and has served two terms as a member of the board of visitors of Norfolk State University; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Dr. Owens became rector of Virginia State University and was named Chesapeake's First Citizen by the Great Bridge Jaycees; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Owens has also been honored with the Portsmouth Teachers' Association School Bell Award, the Howard University Distinguished Alumni Award, and the Virginia State College Distinguished Alumni Award; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Owens was honored by the Chesapeake School Board, which, in 1997, named Chesapeake's newest middle school for Dr. Hugo Armstrong Owens, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, a long and ongoing career of service to his community and the Commonwealth has made Dr. Hugo Armstrong Owens, Sr., a most deserving recipient of the Gamma Delta Omega Citizen of the Year Award; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, That Dr. Hugo Armstrong Owens, Sr., be hereby commended for his many contributions to the quality of life in South Hampton Roads; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dr. Hugo Armstrong Owens, Sr., as an expression of the Senate's admiration and gratitude for his lifetime of service to his community and the Commonwealth.

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