

## 2002 SESSION

ENROLLED

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 496

*Commending Rufus B. Easter, Jr.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 6, 2002  
Agreed to by the Senate, March 8, 2002

WHEREAS, Rufus B. Easter, Jr., an employee of Hampton University for nearly 47 years, has devoted many years and considerable energy to helping Virginians with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, a native of Hampton and a graduate of the public schools of Hampton and Hampton Institute (now University), Rufus Easter served as instructor in the Music Department of Hampton University for 14 years; and

WHEREAS, for 27 years Rufus Easter was director of Auxiliary Enterprises at Hampton University, and also served as coordinator of university concerts and director of the ROTC band and chorus; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure at Hampton University, Rufus Easter has served under seven university presidents and has been influential in the formation of the Hampton Association for the Arts and Humanities, the Hampton Arts Commission, and the Hampton History Museum; and

WHEREAS, a 16-year veteran of service on the board of Whittaker Memorial Hospital and Newport News General Hospital, Rufus Easter developed an interest in mental health; and

WHEREAS, Rufus Easter has been a member of Eastern State Hospital's Human Rights Committee and Hospital Advisory Board, is a member of the Hampton-Newport News Community Service Advisory Board, and is president of the local affiliate of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill; and

WHEREAS, Rufus Easter is an effective advocate for those incarcerated for parole violations and is chairman of the board of Insight Enterprises Peninsula Center for Independent Living; and

WHEREAS, a man of inexhaustible energy, Rufus Easter is a citizen of rare commitment, dedication, and value to the people of Hampton; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Rufus B. Easter, Jr., for his extraordinary service to Hampton University and his energetic and ongoing advocacy for the mentally ill; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Rufus B. Easter, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for his dedication to the welfare of the citizens of Hampton.

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