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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 870

Offered February 14, 2011

Commending the Honorable Aundria D. Foster.

Patron—BaCote; Senator: Locke

WHEREAS, the Honorable Aundria D. Foster, an admired Circuit Court Judge for the City of Newport News, will be honored at the 2011 Annual Rosa Parks Prayer Breakfast in Newport News; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Rosa Parks Prayer Breakfast honors women who exemplify the strength and character of esteemed civil rights icon Rosa Parks; and

WHEREAS, a stellar student, Aundria Foster earned a bachelor's degree from Old Dominion University and a law degree from The College of William and Mary Law School, where she was the first African American to receive the *American Jurisprudence* Book Award for the highest grade in her contracts class; and

WHEREAS, Aundria Foster began her distinguished legal career as an attorney with Peninsula Legal Aid, handling civil matters such as social security issues, domestic relations, and landlord-tenant disputes for low-income clients; and

WHEREAS, Aundria Foster served as the Assistant Commonwealth Attorney for Newport News from 1984 to 1991 and helped establish the Commonwealth's first domestic violence intervention program, which promoted a comprehensive approach to handling domestic violence cases; and

WHEREAS, in 1991 Aundria Foster became the first female African American to become a judge in Newport News when she was appointed to the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, later becoming the first African American to serve as chief judge of a court in Newport News; and

WHEREAS, an innovative jurist, Judge Foster helped establish the juvenile drug treatment court and family drug treatment court to provide a holistic approach to serving the rehabilitation needs of drug- and alcohol-addicted children and adults; and

WHEREAS, in 2004 Judge Foster was elevated to the Circuit Court of the City of Newport News, where she has presided with great fairness, integrity, and commitment to justice for all; and

WHEREAS, Judge Foster has served the Commonwealth and her community in varied capacities and won many awards and accolades for her contributions; and

WHEREAS, a woman of great integrity and wisdom, Judge Foster has announced her retirement from the Circuit Court of the City of Newport News, effective April 1, 2011, after decades of exemplary service to the citizens of the Commonwealth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Honorable Aundria D. Foster for her recognition at the 2011 Annual Rosa Parks Prayer Breakfast in Newport News; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Honorable Aundria D. Foster as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations on her receipt of this honor.

INTRODUCED

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