

2014 SESSION

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 128

Offered February 24, 2014

Commending Gordon L. Gentry, Jr.

Patrons—Yancey, BaCote and Mason

WHEREAS, Gordon L. Gentry, Jr., of Newport News, whose community involvement and passion for helping others began more than 50 years ago and continues unabated today, was honored as the 2013 *Daily Press* Citizen of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Gordon Gentry, who is chairman of TowneBank of the Peninsula, has been a banker for his entire career; after graduating from Warwick High School, he earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and a graduate degree from The College of William and Mary; and

WHEREAS, as a banker, Gordon Gentry understands the essential connection between a top-quality education—for preschool pupils, school-age children, trade school apprentices, and college and university students—and a growing community with a vibrant economy; and

WHEREAS, Gordon Gentry's vision of the best possible education for all people has been realized in part with the establishment of An Achievable Dream, a public/private partnership that provides at-risk students with life skills, role models, and opportunities to succeed; he is chairman of the board; and

WHEREAS, Gordon Gentry also serves on the boards of Hampton University and the Christopher Newport University Luter School of Business; he is convinced that strong educational institutions such as those help foster communities where people want to live, work, and raise families; and

WHEREAS, Gordon Gentry helped establish People to People, which focuses on race relations, diversity, and quality of life for all people in Newport News; he recognized that by creating a common ground for communication and fellowship that citizens could work together to achieve common goals; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Gordon Gentry has been a member of the Start Strong Council, and he also is a member of the board of Riverside Health System and serves on many other civic boards; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Gordon L. Gentry, Jr., of Newport News, hereby be commended for being named the 2013 *Daily Press* Citizen of the Year for his more than 50 years of community involvement; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Gordon L. Gentry, Jr., as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect and admiration for his dedicated public service and tireless work on behalf of the people and organizations of the Virginia Peninsula.

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