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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 214

Offered March 8, 2016

Commending the Reverend Dr. Kevin G. Swann.

Patrons—Price, Helsel, Mason, Ward and Yancey

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Reverend Dr. Kevin G. Swann, senior pastor of Ivy Baptist Church in Newport News, who has touched countless lives as a minister, community leader, author, and teacher, celebrates his 10th Pastoral Anniversary of ministry and service to his congregation; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Kevin Swann earned a bachelor's and master's degree in Counseling from Old Dominion University and a doctoral degree from South Florida Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, since beginning his ministry at Ivy Baptist Church in 2006, the Reverend Dr. Kevin Swann has undertaken extensive community service initiatives, including founding Kevin Swann Enterprises, a nonprofit faith-based organization that provides assistance to underprivileged youth and adults in southeastern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Kevin Swann's outreach efforts are furthered by his writings; he regularly contributes to a religious column in the *Daily Press* newspaper, and in 2013, he published his first book, *Survive and Advance: Effective Strategies for Christian Leaders*; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Kevin Swann has had a presence in the community; he writes a daily inspirational blog, *Moments with our Master*, impacting thousands of people across the country and abroad; he reaches a large audience through the "Pastor's Study," a weekly radio program that he co-founded in 2007, and he teaches as an adjunct professor at Hampton University; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Kevin Swann has received numerous awards and accolades for his faithful and tireless work; he is the recipient of two honorary degrees, was honored in 2012 with a Living Legends Award from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and in 2015, Kevin Swann Enterprises received the Community Champion Award from the Hampton Roads Diversity and Inclusion Consortium; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Kevin Swann is a prolific, thoughtful, and brilliant preacher who inspires his congregation to be socially conscious and make positive change in the community; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Kevin Swann is a solutions-oriented leader; through community dialogue and collaboration, he works to make the Peninsula area a safe and healthy place for all those who call it home; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Reverend Dr. Kevin G. Swann, senior pastor of Ivy Baptist Church in Newport News, hereby be commended on the occasion of his 10th Pastoral Anniversary of relevant ministry and service; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Dr. Kevin G. Swann as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect and admiration for his faithful work to promote God's love, help those in need, and strengthen the community.

INTRODUCED

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