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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 716

Offered January 15, 2019

*Commending the Honorable Daun Sessoms Hester.*

Patrons—Lindsey, Aird, Bagby, Bloxom, Bourne, Carr, Convirs-Fowler, Delaney, Filler-Corn, Hayes, Heretick, Hope, James, Jones, J.C., Jones, S.C., Keam, Kory, Landes, McQuinn, Mullin, Murphy, Plum, Price, Ransone, Rasoul, Reid, Rodman, Rush, Simon, Stolle, Sullivan, Thomas, Torian, Toscano, Tyler, Ward, Ware and Watts; Senators: Boysko, Dance, McClellan, McDougle and Spruill

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Honorable Daun Sessoms Hester became the first African American woman elected as treasurer of the City of Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, a recognized leader in the Norfolk community, Daun Hester has previously served as an educator in Norfolk Public Schools for 22 years, as a member of the Norfolk City Council for 14 years, including four years as vice mayor, and as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates representing the 89th House District for five years; and

WHEREAS, as Norfolk's chief tax collector, Daun Hester will use her experience in government and visionary leadership to build trust, transparency, and accountability in the office; and

WHEREAS, prior to her election, Daun Hester discovered that in the era of Jim Crow laws, her father and grandparents had been forced to pay poll taxes for the right to vote, a reminder of the hard work and significant achievements of the Civil Rights movement and of the importance of her own responsibilities to the public as she takes office as treasurer; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Honorable Daun Sessoms Hester on becoming the first African American woman to serve as treasurer of the City of Norfolk; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Honorable Daun Sessoms Hester as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for her service to the members of the Norfolk community and the Commonwealth.