

19104659D

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 411

Offered February 13, 2019

Celebrating the life of Tony Robinson Washington, Jr.

Patrons—Lewis; Delegate: Bloxom

WHEREAS, Tony Robinson Washington, Jr., well-loved Eastern Shore educator and coach, died on September 19, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Tony Washington was born in Jacksonville, North Carolina, where he graduated from Georgetown High School and was an outstanding football player; his talents earned him a scholarship to Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he earned a bachelor's degree in education; he continued his educational studies at Old Dominion University and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore; and

WHEREAS, Tony Washington began his teaching career at York High School in South Carolina, where he coached the basketball team to victory in a state championship; in 1967, he relocated to teach in Northampton County Public Schools and dedicated 23 years of service to students on the Eastern Shore; and

WHEREAS, Tony Washington began his football coaching career at Cape Charles High School and later transitioned to Northampton High School, where he served as the assistant football coach; in 1990, he became the head football coach at Nandua High School and would later coach the boys track and field team; and

WHEREAS, Tony Washington mentored many of his players and other high school athletes in Accomack and Northampton counties, helping many of the students matriculate into four-year colleges and universities through athletic scholarships; it was at Nandua High School where he coached his own sons, Tony and Todd, both of whom starred at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and then had professional football careers; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from Nandua High School, Tony Washington went on to become the first and only head basketball coach at Eastern Shore Community College, where he developed a thriving basketball program; he later returned to assist with the Nandua High School football program, helped develop a youth football and basketball league with the Accomack County Parks and Recreation Department, and became the driver's education instructor for Chincoteague High School, Arcadia High School, and the Tangier Combined School; and

WHEREAS, Tony Washington was involved in numerous fraternal and civic organizations including the Princess Anne Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce, and the Accomack County NAACP; he was also deeply involved in St. Mark Baptist Church in Melfa; and

WHEREAS, Tony Washington will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his wife, Earline; sons, Tony and Todd, and their families; and numerous other family members, friends, students, and athletes; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby note with great sadness the loss of Tony Robinson Washington, Jr., well-loved Eastern Shore educator and coach; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Tony Robinson Washington, Jr., as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for his memory.

INTRODUCED

SJ411