

2021 SPECIAL SESSION II

INTRODUCED

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SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 734

Offered August 4, 2021

Commending Michael Paul Williams.

Patrons—McClellan, Barker, Boysko, Deeds, DeSteph, Dunnavant, Hackworth, Hashmi, Howell, Locke, Lucas, Mason, McPike, Morrissey and Spruill

WHEREAS, Michael Paul Williams, esteemed columnist of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, won the Pulitzer Prize for commentary in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Michael Williams was selected by the Pulitzer Prize board based at Columbia University to receive journalism's most prestigious award for opinion pieces he wrote during the summer of 2020 on the subject of Richmond's Confederate statues; and

WHEREAS, Michael Williams joins 16 other Pulitzer Prize honorees in 2021 and is the third writer for the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* to receive the award; and

WHEREAS, a longtime member of the Greater Richmond community, Michael Williams graduated from Hermitage High School in Henrico County before earning a bachelor's degree in English from Virginia Union University and a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University; and

WHEREAS, Michael Williams has devoted nearly 40 years of his accomplished career in journalism to the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, authoring more than 2,700 opinion columns while contributing to the evolution of the paper over the past half-century; and

WHEREAS, by offering fresh insights that bring greater understanding to challenging topics of the day, Michael Williams has provided an invaluable service to the Richmond community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That Michael Paul Williams, respected columnist of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, hereby be commended for winning the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for commentary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Michael Paul Williams as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's admiration for his contributions to the Commonwealth.

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