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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 160

Offered January 25, 2022

*Commending the Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Van Guns.*

Patrons—Williams Graves, Clark, Convirs-Fowler, Hayes, Hope, Rasoul, Reid, Scott, D.L. and Simonds

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Van Guns, senior pastor of Second Calvary Baptist Church in Norfolk and a leader in the faith community both locally and globally, has greatly served the community of Norfolk throughout the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, since January 2021, Geoffrey Guns has been actively involved in Norfolk's COVID-19 vaccination campaign, working tirelessly to ensure the health and safety of the city's residents; and

WHEREAS, Geoffrey Guns spearheaded the initiative Trusted Partners, establishing vaccine clinics at community churches in partnership with local pastors, the Norfolk Department of Health, Sentara Healthcare, Peoples Pharmacy, Hague Pharmacy at CHKD, Groomed for Greatness Vaccine Clinic, and Helping Hands Mobile Medical Service; and

WHEREAS, Geoffrey Guns helped bring together the City of Norfolk and local churches on February 5, 2021, to host a vaccine clinic at Booker T. Washington High School in Norfolk; and

WHEREAS, Geoffrey Guns and Second Calvary Baptist Church have set up vaccine clinics both at the church and throughout the community, including along Hampton Roads Transit and at Metropolitan Funeral Service establishments; and

WHEREAS, Geoffrey Guns and Second Calvary Baptist Church have formed a community engagement team as part of their vaccination campaign, canvassing neighborhoods of Norfolk to raise awareness and assisting thousands of people in their efforts to get the vaccine; and

WHEREAS, as part of his outreach work, Geoffrey Guns attended numerous community town halls and local events throughout 2021 to speak to attendees about the importance of receiving the vaccine, providing valuable information and access to those who would not have otherwise received it; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that more than 6,000 individuals have been vaccinated and protected from the threat of COVID-19 through events and programs organized by Geoffrey Guns and his team; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Van Guns, senior pastor of Second Calvary Baptist Church, for his noteworthy endeavors in the interest of public health and safety; 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. Geoffrey Van Guns as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his contributions to the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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