

## 2023 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 358

Offered February 20, 2023

*Commending Elwood Williams.*

Patron—Glass

WHEREAS, for 40 years, Elwood Williams has made numerous contributions to young people in Norfolk as a program director and executive director of local Boys & Girls Clubs; and

WHEREAS, Elwood Williams, best known to generations of local young people as "Coach," worked with the former Colonial Boys & Girls Club and Southside Boys & Girls Club; he became the longest-serving executive director of a Boys & Girls Club program in the Commonwealth during his tenure with the Southside Boys & Girls Club Diggs Town Unit; and

WHEREAS, Elwood Williams is the creator of Streetology 101, a course for helping adults and juveniles transition from gang life to civilian life in a way that is safe, healthy, life-preserving, and sustaining; and

WHEREAS, Elwood Williams expanded the Streetology 101 course to Tidewater Community College and Norfolk State University, where sociology students learned how to better build partnerships with community members, hear people as they hurt, and be open to valuing the human before them, however imperfect; and

WHEREAS, Elwood Williams has helped young people build relationships based on trust and mutual respect with friends, neighbors, and other individuals in the community; by honoring those around him and meeting people "where they are," he was able to share his valuable perspectives and insights to those most in need, while broadening perspectives for all involved; and

WHEREAS, Elwood Williams has inspired young people through his tenacious leadership, unwavering kindness and compassion, and fearless empathy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Elwood Williams hereby be commended for his 40 years of service to Boys & Girls Clubs in Hampton Roads; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Elwood Williams as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for his personal and professional achievements.

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HR358