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## **HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 101**

Offered February 7, 2024

Celebrating the life of Richard Carlton Griffin, Sr.

Patron—Cole

WHEREAS, Richard Carlton Griffin, Sr., an esteemed educator and education administrator and a beloved member of the Fredericksburg community, died on December 6, 2023; and

WHEREAS, affectionately known by friends and family as "Soup," Carlton Griffin graduated from James Monroe High School in Fredericksburg in 1969 before earning a bachelor's degree in physical education from Norfolk State University and a master's degree in education supervision and administration from the University of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Carlton Griffin was an offensive lineman for the Norfolk State University Spartans while an undergraduate and was later inducted in 2023 into the Norfolk State University Department of Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame for his role on the 1974-1976 Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association championship-winning football team; and

WHEREAS, Carlton Griffin began his career as a physical education teacher and football coach at his alma mater, James Monroe High School, and ultimately served as the school's assistant principal from 1980 to 1987; and

WHEREAS, after serving as the first principal of Walker-Grant Middle School in Fredericksburg from 1987 to 1991, Carlton Griffin took a position as assistant principal of West Springfield High School in Fairfax County, where he would serve for the next 21 years; and

WHEREAS, after a brief retirement following 34 years in education, Carlton Griffin answered the call to serve again by taking the helm as principal of Caroline High School and Bowling Green Elementary School in Caroline County; and

WHEREAS, Carlton Griffin's commitment to the well-being of his students was evident to all who knew him, as he strived tirelessly year after year to ensure their success both in and out of the classroom; and

WHEREAS, guided by his deep and abiding faith, Carlton Griffin enjoyed worship and fellowship with his community at Union Bell Baptist Church in Stafford County, where he was an active and regular participant on the Tuesday night Griffin family prayer line; and

WHEREAS, Carlton Griffin will be fondly remembered and dearly missed by his children, Katrina and Richard, Jr., and their families and by numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Richard Carlton Griffin, Sr., a cherished member of the Fredericksburg community and respected education administrator whose steadfast dedication to young people of the Commonwealth touched countless lives; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the family of Richard Carlton Griffin, Sr., as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.