

2022 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 347

Commending the Reverend Robert A. Whitehead, Sr.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 7, 2022

Agreed to by the Senate, March 9, 2022

WHEREAS, the Reverend Robert A. Whitehead, Sr., a highly admired community leader in Williamsburg, has served as pastor of New Zion Baptist Church for more than 30 years; and

WHEREAS, a native of Portsmouth, Robert Whitehead holds degrees from Virginia Commonwealth University, the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University, and Regent University; and

WHEREAS, as pastor of New Zion Baptist Church, Robert Whitehead has helped the congregation grow in faith and numbers and placed a high emphasis on spiritual enlightenment, volunteer service, education, health, and community stewardship; and

WHEREAS, Robert Whitehead helped New Zion Baptist Church grow from 40 members to nearly 700 and has overseen the creation of outreach programs and ministries to alleviate hunger, increase civic engagement, and build community spirit; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic Robert Whitehead coordinated with other organizations to facilitate and arrange transportation to vaccination clinics; and

WHEREAS, highly admired by his fellow pastors, Robert Whitehead serves as a member of the Williamsburg Tri-County Pastor's Council and the African American Fellowship of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Robert Whitehead previously served as a board member of A Hope 4 Tomorrow, Faith in Action, Housing Partnerships of Williamsburg, and the Pastoral Advisory Council at Sentara Regional Medical Center, where he served as a volunteer chaplain; and

WHEREAS, Robert Whitehead has further enhanced community life as a member of the York-James City-Williamsburg Branch of the NAACP and he works with local schools to provide leadership development opportunities to young people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Reverend Robert A. Whitehead, Sr., for his legacy of service as pastor of New Zion Baptist Church; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Robert A. Whitehead, Sr., as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for his achievements on behalf of the Williamsburg community.

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