

2022 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 184

Commending the Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker Boxing and Fitness Center.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, March 11, 2022

WHEREAS, the Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker Boxing and Fitness Center was originally the Norfolk Boxing and Fitness Center, which began operations at Harbor Park stadium in November 2016; and

WHEREAS, coach Gloria Peek, the first and only woman to coach on the U.S. Olympic boxing team, was instrumental in designing the 13,000 square feet facility at Harbor Park that would ultimately house the Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker Boxing and Fitness Center; and

WHEREAS, the Norfolk Boxing and Fitness Center was renamed the Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker Boxing and Fitness Center in 2019 in honor of the Norfolk native and U.S. Olympic gold medalist; and

WHEREAS, another Norfolk native, Keyshawn Davis, trained at the Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker Boxing and Fitness Center and went on to win a silver medal at the Tokyo Olympics in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker Boxing and Fitness Center contributes greatly to Norfolk's prestigious boxing legacy, which includes the Barraud Park Boxing Center that was once led by former U.S. Olympic boxing coach Dan Campbell; and

WHEREAS, though the Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker Boxing and Fitness Center remains closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it remains a valued and integral part of the Norfolk community at its current location; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker Boxing and Fitness Center hereby be commended for its efforts to promote the sport of boxing and better the Norfolk community; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Pernell "Sweet Pea" Whitaker Boxing and Fitness Center as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's contributions to the Commonwealth.

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