

## 2022 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 73

Offered March 2, 2022

*Celebrating the life of Robert Louis Williams.*

Patrons—Williams Graves, Jenkins, McQuinn, Mundon King and Simonds

WHEREAS, Robert Louis Williams, a highly admired community leader who touched countless lives in Hampton Roads, died on February 15, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Robert Williams, affectionately known as "Bob Z," grew up in Norfolk, where he graduated from Granby High School; he earned Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from Norfolk State University and continued his education at Troy State University; and

WHEREAS, a passionate lifelong learner and dedicated educator, Robert Williams worked as an education and training specialist for Ford Motor Company, an admissions counselor at Norfolk State University, and a career coach and adjunct professor at Tidewater Community College over the course of his distinguished career; and

WHEREAS, Robert Williams inspired young people as a longtime volunteer with Norfolk Public Schools, and he was a proud member of many civic and service organizations, including Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Robert Williams enhanced the quality of life in Hampton Roads by providing his leadership to the board of directors of the H.E.R. Shelter in Portsmouth, joining the Chesapeake Mayor's Task Force on Gang Activity, and serving as community services director for United Auto Workers; and

WHEREAS, Robert Williams was also an employment specialist with the Garden of Hope Community Development Corporation and founded the Coastal Virginia Community Development Corporation; and

WHEREAS, in April 2021, Robert Williams launched Bob Z UNKUT Community Views, a podcast addressing socioeconomic issues in the region and perspectives on current events; and

WHEREAS, Robert Williams will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by his children, Brandon, Riah, and Robert III, and their families; his mother, Carol; and numerous other family members and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Delegates hereby note with great sadness the loss of Robert Louis Williams; 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 Robert Louis Williams as an expression of the House of Delegates' respect for his memory.

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