

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize Curtis Lawrence for his academic achievement of graduating from the School Without Walls at age 14 and beginning college at George Washington University.

WHEREAS, Curtis K. D. Lawrence III is a District resident in Ward 5;

WHEREAS, Curtis graduated from the School Without Walls with a 4.04 GPA at 14 years old, an age when most students begin high school;

WHEREAS, Curtis's accelerated education plan began as a young child, when he was able to read and do basic math before beginning pre-school and continued as his teachers recognized his inquisitive nature and gifted ability to learn quickly and encouraged him to test into higher grades than anticipated;

WHEREAS, Curtis took the SATs at age 10;

WHEREAS, Curtis is currently in his freshman year of college at George Washington University and is the youngest student in their traditional undergraduate program;

WHEREAS, Curtis intends to double major in environmental or marine biology and in computer science;

WHEREAS, Curtis's career aspirations include becoming a paleontologist and computer programmer, and he is continuing his efforts to learn Mandarin to further support his career;

34 WHEREAS, Curtis was an active student at the School Without Walls, serving as Vice
35 President of the African Culture Club, and as a member of the STEAM club, Programming Club,
36 Film Club, and the Learn Serve Program;

37 WHEREAS, Curtis was the Founding President of the DMV National Society of Black
38 Engineers, Jr. Chapter at Howard University, an organization, through which Curtis has
39 successfully competed nationally in robotics and math competitions;

40 WHEREAS, Curtis, through his involvement with the National Society of Black
41 Engineers chapters at George Washington and Howard Universities, is planning a District-wide
42 robotics tournament on February 8th and an environmental engineering challenge on April 25th at
43 Howard University;

44 WHEREAS, Curtis volunteers his time to expose underrepresented students to
45 engineering and STEM with the goal of helping more DCPS elementary and middle schools start
46 their own robotics teams;

47 WHEREAS, in his spare time, Curtis enjoys drawing paleo-illustrations, playing piano,
48 and practicing capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian martial art;

49 WHEREAS, recognizing Curtis's achievements would be incomplete without also
50 recognizing his support system including his parents, Malene Lawrence and Curtis Lawrence Jr.,
51 Curtis's younger brother, Corey Lawrence, and Curtis's grandparents, Curtis and Josephine
52 Lawrence Sr., and Gloria Giles.

53 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, this resolution
54 may be cited as the "Curtis Lawrence Academic Achievement Recognition Resolution of 2019".

55 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and celebrates the scholastic
56 achievement of Curtis Lawrence and his family and wishes him well in college and future
57 endeavors.

58 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
59 the District of Columbia Register.