

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DR. BRENDA ESTELLE ARMSTRONG

- WHEREAS,** Dr. Brenda Estelle Armstrong, a native of Rocky Mount NC, received her undergraduate education at Duke University, attended St. Louis University School of Medicine, and did her post-graduate training in pediatrics and pediatric cardiology at UCLA and Duke, respectively; and
- WHEREAS,** she was among the first African-American students to attend Duke University as an undergraduate, and challenged authority as one of the students who protested seeking changes to the racial climate at the school; and
- WHEREAS,** Dr. Armstrong became the second black woman in the United States to become a board-certified pediatric cardiologist; and
- WHEREAS,** for more than two decades, Dr. Armstrong worked in the Duke University School of Medicine as Associate Dean for Medical Student Admissions and senior Associate Dean for Student Diversity, Recruitment and Retention; and
- WHEREAS,** she was affectionally called “Coach Doc” as she coached the youth track club Durham Striders student athletes while also serving as the team’s physician; and
- WHEREAS,** Dr. Armstrong was highly respected as a remarkable role model for generations of medical students and in 2017, she was inducted into the Student National Medical Association Hall of Fame; and
- WHEREAS,** she earned numerous honors and awards during her pioneering career including the S. L. Katz. Pediatrics Outstanding Faculty and Teaching Award, the Duke University Distinguished Faculty Award and the National Medical Association Council on Concerns of Women Physician’s 2018 Woman of Medicine Award.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we the members of the Durham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby recognize to pay tribute to

Dr. Brenda Estelle Armstrong

a legendary physician, coach, mentor and amazing life force who gave her talents unselfishly to help others. We call upon all citizens to celebrate the life of Dr. Armstrong, who dared to make a difference especially in the lives of the least among us. She leaves an enduring legacy of compassion, leadership, and service.

This 26th day of November 2018.

Wendy Jacobs, Chair

James Hill, Jr., Vice-Chair

Heidi Carter, Commissioner

Brenda A. Howerton, Commissioner

Ellen Reckhow, Commissioner

