

House Resolution 1441

By: Representative Williams of the 165th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending the Empire Board of Realtists, Inc.; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Empire Board of Realtists, Inc. (EBR), was organized in 1939 by seven
3 black real estate brokers: W. H. Aiken, John G. Allen, O. T. Bell, Wendell Cunningham,
4 Roger Henderson, J. R. Wilson, Jr., and N. D. Jones, who were dissatisfied with unfair
5 housing conditions and disgruntled about the poor choice of housing available to blacks; and
- 6 WHEREAS, between 1939 and 1944, the EBR's main focus was to provide professional
7 standards for its members, and in 1949 it joined the National Association of Real Estate
8 Brokers, Inc., adopting the trade designation of "realist"; and
- 9 WHEREAS, in the late 1950's, EBR's primary purpose was to educate its membership and
10 inform the public on the concepts, complexities, and benefits of the federal Urban Renewal
11 Program; and
- 12 WHEREAS, the EBR also served as a financial source of bail bonds for civil rights protesters
13 arrested during the early 1960's; and
- 14 WHEREAS, during the 1960's, the EBR revised its constitution, continually increased
15 membership, organized a nonprofit corporation for participation in the 221-Housing
16 Program, gained financial status, and instituted educational programs which accentuated its
17 efforts to inform the public about the particulars of home ownership; and
- 18 WHEREAS, through the 1970's and 1980's and to the present, the EBR gained tremendous
19 momentum as an organization and its members made significant individual achievements.
- 20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body commend the Empire Board of Realtists, Inc., for its many years

1 of outstanding service as a professional organization and honor its roster of illustrious
2 members for their important and historical accomplishments.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
4 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Empire Board of Realtists,
5 Inc.