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1-23-01

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Earl Lloyd was the first African American to play professional basketball for the National Basketball Association on October 31, 1950; and

WHEREAS, Earl Lloyd was born and raised in Alexandria, Virginia, and attended Parker-Gray and Lyles Crouch schools; and

WHEREAS, Earl Lloyd graduated in 1946 from Parker-Gray High School in Alexandria, where he lettered in football, baseball and basketball; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Capitols drafted Earl Lloyd in 1950 after his graduation from West Virginia State; and

WHEREAS, Earl Lloyd returned from the military to play for the Syracuse Nationals, where he and his teammates won the 1954-1955 NBA Championship; he and his teammate Jim Tucker became the first African Americans to win an NBA title; and

WHEREAS, Earl Lloyd retired as a player in 1960 from the Detroit Pistons; he then became the team's assistant coach, and later head coach for the Pistons, the second African American coach in the NBA; and

WHEREAS, in May 1993, Earl Lloyd was enshrined in the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame in Portsmouth, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lloyd has always been a man of his word; he has always let his actions speak for him, as his work with inner-city children in Detroit has been without peer; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria takes great pride in celebrating its native son, who exemplifies excellence and leadership in his chosen field, who without fanfare, broke the color barrier in professional basketball and who has dedicated his entire professional life giving back to our children through his work and support on behalf of Kids In Trouble, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lloyd brings honor and dignity to our community, we welcome him home.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KERRY J. DONLEY, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim February 9, 2001, as:

"EARL LLOYD DAY"

a day the City of Alexandria recognizes the accomplishments of fellow Alexandrian Earl Lloyd and his contribution to our local history.

AND BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that this commemorates Earl Lloyd's homecoming, during Black History Month, for the February 9, 2001, NBA All-Star Weekend.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 23rd day of January 2001.

KERRY J. DONLEY **MAYOR**
*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Beverly J. Jett, CMC City Clerk