NEWPORT NEWS, VA – Congressman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott issued the following statement on the passing of former Portsmouth Mayor James W. Holley, III:

"Mayor Holley was a dedicated public servant and a tireless advocate for the City of Portsmouth and all of her citizens. A career in public service spanning back to 1968 when he was first elected to city council culminated in his election as the first African American mayor of a South Hampton Roads city in the 1980s. Despite the ups and downs of his career, Mayor Holley will always be known for his tremendous spirit, courage and tenacity when it came to fighting for the 'Portsmouth Family.' I will greatly miss his counsel on issues facing Portsmouth. My prayers go out to Mayor Holley's family, friends, his former staff, and all the people positively impacted by his life."

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