

House Resolution 1043

By: Representative Connell of the 115th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending and congratulating Georgia's own welterweight world champion Vernon
2 Forrest and inviting him to appear before the House of Representatives; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, raised by his mother, Mildred Forrest, who encouraged his vision and
5 determination, Vernon Forrest began his pursuit of pugilistic perfection early in life; and

6 WHEREAS, this native son of Augusta, Georgia, commenced his boxing career with the
7 Augusta Boxing Club at age nine and continued his training there until he entered the
8 Olympic Education Program at age 18; and

9 WHEREAS, Vernon cut a swath through the amateur ranks, compiling an amazing record
10 of 225 wins and only 16 losses while garnering eight Georgia State Amateur Championships,
11 a Gold Medal in the 1991 USA Amateur Championship, a Gold Medal in the 1992 USA
12 Olympic Trials, a Gold Medal in the 1992 USA Olympic Box-Off, and a Gold Medal in the
13 1992 World Amateur Championship, and he earned a position on the 1992 USA Olympic
14 Boxing Team by defeating rival Shane Mosely for the number one spot; and

15 WHEREAS, since he launched his professional career in November of 1992, he has
16 continued to demonstrate to faithful boxing fans his desire and ability to challenge the sport's
17 elite, and his relentless pursuit of excellence has resulted in an astonishing record of 34 wins,
18 26 by way of knockout, without a single loss; and

19 WHEREAS, throughout his professional career, he has executed his craft with prodigious
20 prowess and precision and has established himself as a fearsome combination puncher who
21 punishes his opponents while patiently setting them up for the knockout via his devastating
22 right hand; and

1 WHEREAS, Vernon Forrest is a fierce competitor who clearly believes in answering
2 opportunity's knock, and he did so on Saturday, January 26, 2002, by stepping into the ring
3 with WBC welterweight champion "Sugar" Shane Mosely (38-0, with 35 knockouts) and
4 by leaving it after having accomplished one of boxing's biggest ever upset victories; and

5 WHEREAS, these two professionally undefeated athletes, whom many regard as the
6 personification of excellence in boxing, honored their sport and profession with an incredible
7 display of strength, skill, determination, and endurance -- but someone's "0" had to go; and

8 WHEREAS, Vernon's astonishing display of skill – his relentless jabs, pinpoint uppercuts,
9 and Hearns-like right-hand bombs – catapulted him into boxing's elite upper echelon, where
10 he is now recognized as a powerful contender for the highly-coveted, fan-bestowed
11 designation: Pound-for-Pound Best in the World; and

12 WHEREAS, Vernon Forrest epitomizes the courage, determination, leadership, and character
13 necessary to attain excellence in athletic prowess and performance and to achieve success
14 as an individual and a citizen; and

15 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the superlative skills and outstanding
16 accomplishments of this renowned ring warrior be recognized appropriately.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
18 the members of this body commend Vernon Forrest for his unprecedented athletic
19 performance, congratulate him upon his attainment of world welterweight champion, and
20 join the citizens of this state in thanking him for bringing the championship belts to Georgia
21 and wishing him all possible success as he begins the defense of his boxing title.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Vernon Forrest is invited to appear before the House of
23 Representatives on a day and at a time designated by the Speaker of the House of
24 Representatives.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
26 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Vernon Forrest.