

House Resolution 1505

By: Representatives Stanley of the 50th and Stanley of the 49th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Expressing regret at the passing of Mrs. Margaret Ponder; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, when Mrs. Margaret Ponder passed away in Atlanta recently at the age of 73,
3 she left a void in her family and her community; and
- 4 WHEREAS, she was always a woman of strong spirit and determination, raising six children
5 when her husband left the family, and after working in the cleaning business for others for
6 20 years, she opened her own cleaners, Ponder's Cleaners, on Campbellton Road in
7 southwest Atlanta at a time when the area was mainly white, and she worked there as the
8 community changed to predominantly black, and it became the oldest African American
9 owned business in the Ben Hill community; and
- 10 WHEREAS, her business was her ministry, and there was always religious reading material
11 around, and she always had something for anyone who came in need of clothing or food; and
- 12 WHEREAS, she started a women's prison ministry, a nursing home visitation program, and
13 a ministry for single mothers, and she made mission trips to Jamaica and Nova Scotia and
14 held weekly Bible study groups in her home; and
- 15 WHEREAS, she is survived by her children, Veda Johnson, Jacqueline Howard, Debbie
16 Brewer, Roderick Ponder, Darrell Ponder, and Capria Ponder; 13 grandchildren; nine
17 great-grandchildren; a sister, Marian Dorsey; and a host of friends; and
- 18 WHEREAS, her life was a shining example of how things are supposed to be, raising six
19 children, operating a successful business, and serving the Lord and her fellows, and when the
20 final tally is made, nothing further can be asked.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 the members of this body express regret at the passing of Mrs. Margaret Ponder and convey
3 condolences to her grieving family and friends.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
5 and directed to provide an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mrs. Margaret
6 Ponder.