

House Resolution 1518

By: Representatives Jackson of the 148th, Ragas of the 64th and Mangham of the 75th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Donald Lee Hollowell; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Donald Lee Hollowell is a highly respected attorney, well known for his
3 enormous contribution in the civil rights arena in Georgia and throughout the nation; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mr. Hollowell took on the racist political establishment in an effort to end racial
5 segregation in higher education, earning Hamilton Holmes and Charlayne Hunter the
6 opportunity to attend the University of Georgia in 1961; and
- 7 WHEREAS, he is also remembered for getting Martin Luther King Jr. out of jail when he
8 was being held on misdemeanor charges; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Mr. Hollowell not only advocated for well-known people in high profile cases,
10 he also defended hundreds of lesser-known civil rights protesters and coached students in the
11 finer points of civil disobedience before marches and demonstrations; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Mr. Hollowell capped an already distinguished career in 1966 by creating and
13 heading the southeastern regional office of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission,
14 pioneering the legal field of workplace discrimination; and
- 15 WHEREAS, as president of the board of the Voter Education Project from 1971 to 1986, Mr.
16 Hollowell's leadership helped raise African American voter registration in the United States
17 from 3 million to 5.5 million; and
- 18 WHEREAS, this recipient of numerous honors, which include countless plaques
19 commemorating his contribution to social change, the Emory University School of Law
20 naming a professorship for him, and the City of Atlanta naming a street after him, is known
21 by friends and colleagues for his unassuming demeanor that has won him respect and
22 affection during the past 82 years; and

1 WHEREAS, he mentored and inspired other young African American attorneys, including
2 presidential confidant Vernon Jordan, United States District Judge Horace Ward, and former
3 Atlanta City Council President Marvin Arrington, with whom he later formed the law firm
4 Arrington and Hollowell; and

5 WHEREAS, one will still find him serving as an able mentor to the firm's young associates
6 at his Peachtree Street office; and

7 WHEREAS, his courage, intelligence, integrity, dignity, honesty, and unwavering
8 commitment to social change characterize his life and career.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
10 the members of this body recognize and commend Donald Lee Hollowell for his extreme
11 dedication to making the "benefits of life available to all" and wish him and his wife, Louise,
12 continued good health and happiness.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
14 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Donald Lee Hollowell.