

House Resolution 315

By: Representatives Smyre of the 136th, Taylor of the 134th, Hugley of the 133rd, Buck of the 135th, Smith of the 102nd and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Expressing regret at the passing of Lyda Haywood Hannan; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Lyda Haywood Hannan, an educator from Columbus, Georgia, died at the age
3 of 91 years.
- 4 WHEREAS, born in an age when it was difficult for black children to get a good education,
5 Mrs. Hannan spent her life improving educational opportunities for all children; and
- 6 WHEREAS, in fact, in her community, her name has become synonymous with education
7 as a Columbus elementary school named in her honor bears witness; and
- 8 WHEREAS, that one determined individual could become so publicly identified with the
9 single most important asset denied her by the society she was born into is a testament to her
10 intelligence , persistence, and dedication; and
- 11 WHEREAS, she was born in Columbus, Georgia, on April 7, 1909 and attended Fifth
12 Avenue Elementary School; and
- 13 WHEREAS, she got her high school diploma from Morris Brown College, an undergraduate
14 degree at Fort Valley State College, and a master's degree at Atlanta University; and
- 15 WHEREAS, a teacher from the age of 19 and a principal of 36 years, she was honored with
16 local, state, and national education awards throughout her career; and
- 17 WHEREAS, in 1988, she received the Distinguished Alumni Citation from the National
18 Association for equal Opportunity in Higher Education from the nation's historically black
19 colleges and universities, and in 1999, the Columbus chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha
20 fraternity presented her with the Dr. Martin Luther King Unity Award; and

1 WHEREAS, her civic involvement included organizations as diverse as the League of
2 Women Voters and the March of Dimes, in which she remained active even in retirement;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hannan's true legacy to her community may be seen best in the lives and
5 careers of countless Columbus residents whom she taught and to whom she gave the gift of
6 education.

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8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
9 that the members of this body honor Lyda Haywood Hannan as a great educator and public
10 servant whose generosity and determination inspired and guided generations of Georgians.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body express their sincere regret
12 at her passing.

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 the family of Lyda
15 Haywood Hannan.