

House Resolution 451

By: Representatives Jennings of the 63rd, Davis of the 60th, Murphy of the 18th, Millar of the 59th, Mueller of the 152nd and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Designating the Betty Jo Williams Interchange; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Honorable Betty Jo Williams served for 20 years as a distinguished member of
3 the Georgia House of Representatives; and
- 4 WHEREAS, she authored legislation which exempted DeKalb residents 70 years of age or
5 older from school property taxes and was instrumental in having the "Taxpayer's Right to
6 Know" legislation (referred to as the Betty Jo Williams bill) passed, which mandates that the
7 DeKalb County Board of Commissioners publish the tax digest when the tax digest increases
8 and the millage rate is not reduced; and
- 9 WHEREAS, she secured funding to build Rehoboth School Park and to build a home for
10 outstanding young adults with special needs; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Ms. Williams was the original author of legislation to give equal opportunities
12 for female athletes in Georgia which led to passage of the "Equity in Sports Act"; and
- 13 WHEREAS, she served on the Appropriations, Rules, Industry, Insurance, and State
14 Institutions and Property committees, and chaired a standing subcommittee of the Industry
15 Committee, the first Republican to chair a standing subcommittee of a House committee; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Ms. Williams served on the Tourism and Economic Development Committee
17 of the National Conference of State Legislatures and was appointed by President Reagan to
18 serve as chair of the Southeastern Advisory Committee to the National Park System; and
- 19 Whereas, she is the only Republican woman ever elected from DeKalb County and she was
20 honored for her legislative accomplishments by the Medical Association of Georgia, Georgia
21 Council on Aging, National Rifle Association, DeKalb Art Council, and DeKalb Historical
22 Society; and

1 WHEREAS, her legislative experience and keen understanding of governmental problems
2 made her one of the most influential members of the General Assembly; and

3 WHEREAS, she has given much time and energy in helping the citizens of DeKalb County
4 and it is only fitting and proper that Ms. Williams be recognized by having a landmark bridge
5 and intersection in DeKalb County named in her honor.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
7 GEORGIA that the intersection of La Vista Road and Interstate 285 and the bridge over the
8 interstate at such location are designated the Betty Jo Williams Interchange.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
10 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs designating such interchange.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
12 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to Honorable Betty Jo Williams
13 and the Department of Transportation.