

House Resolution 687

By: Representatives Brooks of the 47th and Sailor of the 61st, Post 1

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life of Benjamin Jackson (Ben) Perry, Sr.; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Ben Perry was a trail-blazing radio news broadcaster whose ability and
3 consummate professionalism earned him enduring respect and admiration; and
- 4 WHEREAS, considered a pioneer in black radio, Ben Perry was a mentor and role model for
5 many African American broadcasters; and
- 6 WHEREAS, hired by WAOK radio in 1963, he captured the pulse of black Atlanta and his
7 on-the-scene reports kept radio listeners informed on the civil rights movement from the
8 March on Washington in 1963 to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1968;
9 and
- 10 WHEREAS, in 1972, he was hired by Channel 11 to be its community affairs director; and
- 11 WHEREAS, on Sunday mornings, he co-hosted a public affairs show called "Ebony Beat
12 Journal," on which he interviewed political candidates and community activists; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Mr. Perry worked with organizations such as the Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro
14 Atlanta and the Georgia Association of Educators; and
- 15 WHEREAS, in 1981, he launched "The Orion," a twice-monthly newspaper which he
16 published to help bring empowerment to black churches; and
- 17 WHEREAS, he made tremendous contributions to our society during his lifetime and upon
18 his passing we express our gratitude and respect.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 the members of this body honor the life and achievements of Benjamin Jackson (Ben) Perry,
3 Sr., and express their condolences to his wife, Reba Perry, and to his daughters and sons.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
5 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mrs. Reba Perry.