

House Resolution 843

By: Representatives Rogers of the 20th, Mills of the 67th, Post 2, Amerson of the 9th, and Reece of the 21st

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Expressing regret at the passing of Charles James Thurmond; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, on April 11, 2003, the State of Georgia lost one of its finest and most
3 distinguished citizens with the passing of Charles Thurmond; and
- 4 WHEREAS, he was born on June 2, 1910, attended the University of Georgia where he was
5 a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity, and he later graduated from Atlanta Law School and
6 was admitted to the Georgia Bar in 1935; and
- 7 WHEREAS, he was the president of J. D. Jewell. The second franchisee holder with the
8 Days Inn Co., a successful real estate developer, received the Award of Merit for
9 Outstanding Business Service from the Georgia Business School in 1963, and was inducted
10 into the Gridiron Society by the University of Georgia; and
- 11 WHEREAS, this exceptional individual exhibited outstanding leadership throughout his
12 career of public service as a member of the Georgia Legislature, the Gainesville City
13 Council, and Mayor of Gainesville, President of the Gainesville Chamber of Commerce, and
14 he also served as Chairman of Lake Lanier Islands Authority, President of the Associated
15 Industries of Georgia, and as a member of the round table of the Georgia Poultry Federation;
16 and
- 17 WHEREAS, for more than 60 years, Charles Thurmond, known as "Mr. Kiwanis", was an
18 active member of the Gainesville Kiwanis Club, and the club sponsors a charitable golf
19 tournament in his name; and
- 20 WHEREAS, he was devoted to Brenau University, and served as trustee since 1953 and as
21 chairman from 1962 to 1966, and was awarded the prestigious Sullivan Award and the
22 Distinguished Service Award, and was honored by the naming of Thurmond-McRae Lecture
23 Hall; and

1 WHEREAS, he was an active member of the First Baptist Church for more than 70 years,
2 served as Chairman of the Deacons as well as a faithful member of the Berean Sunday school
3 class, was the first Scoutmaster of Troop 26 at First Baptist Church, served on the Northeast
4 Georgia Council, and was honored for his contributions to the Scouts with the Ralph
5 Cleveland Distinguished Service Award and the Good Shepherd Award; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1945, Charles Thurmond was selected by the Gainesville Jaycees as their
7 first Young Man of the Year, and in 1998, the Gainesville Rotary Club named him Man of
8 the Year in recognition of his many years of service to his community; and

9 WHEREAS, Charles Thurmond was a devoted family man who dearly loved his wife,
10 daughters, siblings, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and his extended family; and

11 WHEREAS, Charles Thurmond was a man who loved life, people, and his community, and
12 he will be remembered always for his kindness, generosity, and devotion.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
14 the members of this body express their deepest and most sincere regret at the passing of
15 Charles James Thurmond.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
17 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Charles James
18 Thurmond.