

## House Resolution 1152

By: Representatives Jackson of the 124<sup>th</sup>, Post 1, and Stephens of the 124<sup>th</sup>, Post 2

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring and remembering the life of Mrs. Carmelita P. Simmons; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of its most beloved ladies and mothers when Mrs.  
3 Carmelita Simmons left this world and our great state behind on December 31, 2003; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Simmons was born July 25, 1941, in Savannah, Georgia, to her loving  
5 parents, Mr. Carmen Payne and Mrs. Alberta Murphy Payne; and
- 6 WHEREAS, she was baptized and raised as a member of Savannah's First African Baptist  
7 Church until, at the age of ten, she moved to Alabama to reside with her caring and  
8 affectionate godmother, Mrs. Bertha Butler; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Simmons was an educated lady and full of grace, and she received her  
10 bachelor's degree from one of the great historically black colleges, Miles College, having  
11 majored in education and minored in music; and
- 12 WHEREAS, she returned to Savannah in 1962 to begin her teaching career at East Broad  
13 Street School as a second grade teacher and was awarded the honorable title of East Broad  
14 Street's "Teacher of the Year" for the 1969-1970 school year; and
- 15 WHEREAS, she used her education and gift for music to serve her Lord, her church, and her  
16 community by performing at countless churches; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Carmelita P. Simmons moved on to teach at Butler Elementary School for 21  
18 years and retired in 1994 after 31 years of service as one of this state's, and her students',  
19 most admired and adored teachers; and
- 20 WHEREAS, she married the love of her life, Nathaniel R. Simmons, and together they  
21 shared an immeasurable love for their son, Nason; and

1 WHEREAS, she was, over the course of her life, an active member of the Junior League at  
2 First African Baptist Church, the Cuyler-Brownsville Neighborhood Association, and the  
3 Retired Teachers Association.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
5 the members of this body honor and remember the life of Mrs. Carmelita P. Simmons and  
6 her selfless dedication to educating the young people of our state and express our sincerest  
7 condolences to her family.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
9 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mrs. Carmelita  
10 P. Simmons.