

House Resolution 1673

By: Representatives Epps of the 90th, Smyre of the 111th, and James of the 114th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring and commending Ralph Paige; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Ralph Paige has been awarded the cooperative community's highest honor—
3 induction into the Cooperative Hall of Fame for 2004; and
- 4 WHEREAS, the Cooperative Development Foundation's Hall of Fame recognizes those, like
5 Mr. Paige, whose contributions to cooperative enterprise have been "genuinely heroic"; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Mr. Paige, a resident of the City of LaGrange, serves as the executive director
7 of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he is being commended for dedicating his life to proving that cooperatives can
9 enhance incomes and improve the quality of life for black family farmers and rural
10 low-income families; and
- 11 WHEREAS, he has been a consistent advocate, fundraiser, and teacher of cooperative
12 solutions for the economic problems facing his rural, agricultural constituency; and
- 13 WHEREAS, under his leadership, the Federation of Southern Cooperatives has developed
14 more than 200 units of low-income housing; formed 18 community credit unions; started 75
15 cooperatives; and created the Rural Training Center in Epes, Alabama; and
- 16 WHEREAS, he has also made the federation's expertise available to international audiences
17 interested in following its model for cooperative development; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Mr. Paige's Hall of Fame induction will take place on April 28, 2004, at the
19 National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 the members of this body honor and commend Ralph Paige upon the great occasion of his
3 induction into the Cooperative Hall of Fame and express their appreciation for his many
4 significant contributions to the State of Georgia.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
6 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Ralph Paige.