

House Resolution 144

By: Representative Williams of the 165<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Remembering and honoring the life of William Varnedoe II and expressing appreciation for  
2 his many contributions to his community; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on December 12, 1926, William Varnedoe II was born the eldest child of  
4 William and Clara Varnedoe in Midway, Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, he was christened at Hutchinson Station A.M.E. Church, presently known as  
6 St. Peter's A.M.E. Church, where he served as a faithful member throughout his life; and

7 WHEREAS, because the church was central to his life and he served as model of devotion  
8 and faith, Mr. Varnedoe became known to many as "The Praying Man"; and

9 WHEREAS, he was a beloved husband to Mrs. Lizzie Mae Hicks Varnedoe and a dedicated  
10 father to his two sons, William and Harold Varnedoe, his daughters Lucy Gaulden McNeil,  
11 Edna M. Anderson Washington, and Frednell Varnedoe Walthour, and Rochelle and Mary  
12 Alice Varnedoe who preceded him in death; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Varnedoe was a positive role model to countless children during his 37  
14 years as a bus driver for the Liberty County Board of Education; and

15 WHEREAS, he was an exemplary community leader and tireless advocate of efforts to  
16 improve conditions within the African American community in Holmestown; and

17 WHEREAS, he was best known as the owner of Varnedoe's Grocery, or Boogie's Store as  
18 it is sometimes known, which he operated with great care and success for 49 years and where  
19 customers enjoyed his friendly manner and the best fresh-cut meat in Holmestown; and

20 WHEREAS, the many accomplishments and contributions of this outstanding and hard  
21 working gentleman often went unrecognized; and

1 WHEREAS, with the passing of Mr. William Varnedoe II, the Holmestown community and  
2 the State of Georgia have lost a most estimable citizen.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
4 the members of this body join together to express their deepest regret at the passing of Mr.  
5 William Varnedoe II and their sincere gratitude for his many years of service to his  
6 community, and extend their most sincere condolences to his family.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
8 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. William  
9 Varnedoe II.