

Senate Resolution 91

By: Senator Harbison of the 15th

### A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring and remembering the life of Walter T. Lunsford, Sr.; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Walter T. Lunsford, Sr., was a businessman, humanitarian, and model citizen  
3 of the State of Georgia; and

4 WHEREAS, he was born March 16, 1916 in Columbus, Georgia, and was a 1933 honor  
5 graduate of Spencer High School where he delivered the Ivy Oration; and

6 WHEREAS, he conducted academic studies at Fisk University and the University of Chicago  
7 and was a charter member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Columbus Alumni Chapter  
8 and Eta Theta Chapter at Columbus State University; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Lunsford was a capable and honest businessman with a successful career  
10 spanning over six decades and which included real estate development and owning and  
11 operating Fox Deluxe Wholesale Beer Distribution Company; and

12 WHEREAS, he was a pioneering entrepreneur who assumed ownership of Checker, Blue  
13 Bird, and Red Bird Taxicab companies beginning in 1944 and operated them for 32 years,  
14 employing over 100 persons at the peak of operations; and

15 WHEREAS, he was a kind and ardent protector to his mother, Lizzie Lunsford, and never  
16 left her side as she fought with Primus King for the rights of Blacks to vote in Georgia; and

17 WHEREAS, he was a founding member of St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church and for  
18 more than 20 years he was an active member of the Church of the Holy Family; and

19 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has lost one of its most distinguished community leaders  
20 with the passing of Walter T. Lunsford, Sr.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
2 join together to express their deepest regret at the passing of Mr. Walter T. Lunsford, Sr., and  
3 extend their most sincere condolences to his family.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
5 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Walter T. Lunsford, Sr.