

House Resolution 417

By: Representative Howard of the 121<sup>st</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of entertainer James Brown; and inviting Dr. Yamma Brown  
2 Lumar, Deanna Brown Thomas, Venisha Brown, Terry Brown, Daryl Brown, and Larry  
3 Brown to appear before the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of its most distinguished treasures with the passing  
5 of James Brown on Christmas Day, 2006; and

6 WHEREAS, James Joseph Brown, Jr., also known as "The Godfather of Soul," was an  
7 inspirational entertainer, philanthropist, and citizen of the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, he was born May 3, 1933, in Barnwell, South Carolina, yet he would call  
9 Augusta, Georgia, his beloved home from the age of five; and

10 WHEREAS, he went on to create an original, dynamic, gospel inspired sound that would  
11 become the animating backbone of countless musical genres; and

12 WHEREAS, his songs expressed the heart and soul of a generation, scoring 17 Number One  
13 R&B hits, including such memorable songs as "Try Me," "It's a Man's Man's Man's World,"  
14 "Papa's Got a Brand New Bag," and "I Got You (I Feel Good)," and he was known for the  
15 potent social commentary of songs such as "Say it Loud – I'm Black and I'm Proud"; and

16 WHEREAS, James Brown gave generously to the people of Georgia, donating more than  
17 3,000 turkeys and 20,000 Christmas toys and attending his annual Christmas toy giveaway  
18 in Atlanta just days before he passed away; and

19 WHEREAS, he provided over 800 Thanksgiving turkeys to the people of Augusta, giving  
20 his own time and money and facilitating the cooperation of local merchants and prominent  
21 Georgia figures; and

1 WHEREAS, he volunteered to play Santa Claus for hundreds of Augusta children, donning  
2 a leather suit and cowboy boots; and

3 WHEREAS, he used his voice on several occasions to encourage the youth of this country,  
4 taking a stand against the violence of events like the Columbine shootings, and he is reputed  
5 to have helped calm riots in the wake of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

6 WHEREAS, his good works were not limited to his music; throughout his astounding  
7 lifetime, he touched the hearts and souls of millions throughout Georgia, the United States,  
8 and the entire world.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
10 the members of this body honor and remember the amazing life of James Brown, recognize  
11 his outstanding contributions to the world of music and the State of Georgia, and extend their  
12 most sincere condolences to his family.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dr. Yamma Brown Lumar, Deanna Brown Thomas,  
14 Venisha Brown, Terry Brown, Daryl Brown, and Larry Brown are hereby invited to appear  
15 before the House of Representatives at a date and time to be fixed by the Speaker of the  
16 House for the purposes of being recognized by the House and receiving an appropriate copy  
17 of this resolution.