

House Resolution 818

By: Representatives Benfield of the 85th, Oliver of the 83rd, Henson of the 87th, Mitchell of the 88th, Watson of the 91st, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Sue Ellen Owens; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Sue Ellen Owens became the director of Leadership DeKalb following her
3 graduation from the program in 1989, and she has served the DeKalb community with the
4 utmost professionalism as the executive director of the DeKalb Historical Society since 1993;
5 and
- 6 WHEREAS, under her conscientious and energetic leadership, the DeKalb Historical Society
7 accomplished much more than simply preserving and documenting the past; it has promoted
8 the future of DeKalb County by contributing immensely to its vibrant and increasingly
9 diverse cultural life; and
- 10 WHEREAS, the DeKalb Historical Society has achieved a number of outstanding milestones
11 during Owens's tenure, including the three-room expansion of the society's museum, the
12 publishing of the first definitive history of DeKalb County, and the retirement of the society's
13 restoration debt; and
- 14 WHEREAS, she earned her bachelor's degree in English and social science from Auburn
15 University, conducted postgraduate work at Georgia State University, and has continued her
16 education at the Fannin Leadership Institute, the University of Georgia, and the National
17 Association for Community Leadership; and
- 18 WHEREAS, she chaired the task force that created the Holy Trinity Shelter for Women and
19 Children, which operated at Holy Trinity Parish for 11 years, and served as chair of the board
20 of the shelter for three years, creating a partnership with Leadership DeKalb and the Junior
21 League of DeKalb County to provide shelter volunteers; and

1 WHEREAS, as chair of the Decatur Cooperative Ministry, she assembled a task force to
2 establish the DeKalb Rape Crisis Center, which has provided high quality free education and
3 support services since 1989; and

4 WHEREAS, she has tirelessly served her community through countless public projects and
5 through such civic organizations as the DeKalb Symphony, the Peavine Watershed Board,
6 Heritage Marketing, the Junior League of DeKalb County, the Oakhurst Community Health
7 Center, and the Our House Board of Directors.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
9 the members of this body recognize this distinguished Georgian, Sue Ellen Owens; commend
10 her innumerable contributions to DeKalb County and to the citizens of this state; and extend
11 to her their sincerest best wishes for the future.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
13 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Sue Ellen Owens.