

## House Resolution 811

By: Representatives Mangham of the 94<sup>th</sup>, Brooks of the 63<sup>rd</sup>, Stephenson of the 92<sup>nd</sup>, Sinkfield of the 60<sup>th</sup>, Holmes of the 61<sup>st</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Expressing regret at the passing of Linwood R. Slayton, Jr.; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia recently lost one of its finest and most distinguished  
3 citizens with the passing of Linwood R. Slayton, Jr.; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Linwood was born on September 18, 1947, in Richmond, Virginia, the only  
5 child of Linwood and Marie Slayton; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Linwood grew up in Philadelphia and later graduated from Howard University  
7 in Washington, D.C., where he pledged Omega Psi Phi fraternity; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he earned a master's degree in urban studies from Howard University and a juris  
9 doctorate from Woodrow Wilson Law School in Atlanta; and
- 10 WHEREAS, early in Linwood's career he was part of the War on Poverty program, the  
11 Urban League, and was director of Planning and Evaluation for Economic Opportunity  
12 Atlanta; and
- 13 WHEREAS, in 1978 he was selected to be the first director of the Justice Center of Atlanta,  
14 where he was one of the first to advocate for alternative dispute resolution as a method of  
15 resolving disputes without formal court intervention; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Linwood later practiced law as a partner with Thomas, Kennedy, Sampson,  
17 Edwards, and Slayton, one of the largest African American law firms in the South, and also  
18 practiced with the firm of Mays and Slayton; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Mr. Slayton practiced domestic relations law, which was his passion, arguing  
20 cases before the United States Supreme Court; and

1 WHEREAS, he greatly enjoyed his affiliations with the Gate City Bar Association where he  
2 served as president, and the National Bar Association where he served as vice president and  
3 also served as the 2007 National Bar Association organizing committee honorary chairman;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Linwood was a voracious reader and owned a pristine library of more than  
6 3,000 volumes of fiction; he also collected over 1,500 record albums, and one of his greatest  
7 pleasures was comparing his collections to those of his friends and recommending books and  
8 albums to them; and

9 WHEREAS, he wrote an online weekly newsletter called *The Woodshed*, providing  
10 commentary and conversation on issues of interest to him, and the column *Wood on Wine*  
11 wherein he would provide helpful tips on how to find and enjoy good wines; and

12 WHEREAS, he also found time for other things he loved, including tennis, gambling, travel,  
13 golf, basketball, and racquetball, in which he won a state trophy; and

14 WHEREAS, among many attributes and talents he is noted for his love of fun and a good  
15 party, and often brought eclectic people together to provide them good food, good wine, and  
16 great conversation; and

17 WHEREAS, Linwood's survivors include his wife Libbee Slayton; his son, Brian Omari  
18 Slayton of Atlanta; and his mother, Marie Dawson Slayton of Philadelphia; and

19 WHEREAS, this beloved individual exhibited extraordinary devotion to duty, outstanding  
20 loyalty, fine leadership, and meticulous attention to detail in all his duties throughout his law  
21 career; and

22 WHEREAS, the passing of this generous, kind, and devoted family man leaves an unfillable  
23 void in the hearts and lives of his family and friends.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
25 the members of this body express their deepest and most sincere regret at the passing of  
26 Linwood R. Slayton, Jr.; commend the care, courage, sympathy, and selfless dedication he  
27 exhibited in his life's work; and extend to his family their utmost appreciation for his so  
28 purely and truly defining for others the meaning of graciousness.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- 2 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Linwood R.
- 3 Slayton, Jr.