

House Resolution 838

By: Representatives Lindsey of the 54th, Jacobs of the 80th, Wilkinson of the 52nd, Geisinger of the 48th, and Ashe of the 56th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the memory of Lelia Kelly and expressing sympathy at her passing; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Lelia Kelly, a distinguished author of mystery novels, died March 13, 2007, at
4 the age of 48 at her Atlanta residence of complications from breast cancer; and

5 WHEREAS, prior to becoming a published author, she was a successful banker, attaining the
6 position of Vice President at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce in New York City;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, she left the banking world after 14 years to write legal thrillers, accomplishing
9 such with a trio of novels ("Assumption of Guilt," "False Witness," and "Officer of the
10 Court") from 1998 through 2001 revolving around the character Laura Chastain, an Atlanta
11 attorney, and prominently featuring Atlanta locales; and

12 WHEREAS, the second novel, "False Witness," earned a spot on the New York Times
13 Bestseller List in 2000 and was nominated for the prestigious Mary Higgins Clark Award
14 presented by the Mystery Writers of America; and

15 WHEREAS, Lelia's books were widely acclaimed and enjoyed as evidenced by each of her
16 novels consistently earning four and five star ratings on Amazon.com; and

17 WHEREAS, she is survived by her mother, Frances Bryan "Bree" Kelly of Atlanta, and two
18 brothers, Michael Kelly of Atlanta and Bill Kelly of Nashville; and

19 WHEREAS, in her death this body mingles our sympathies with the grief of her family and
20 friends at the loss of this bright star.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 the members of this body honor the memory of Lelia Kelly and express their sympathy at her
3 passing.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
5 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Lelia Kelly.