

House Resolution 1308

By: Representative Greene of the 149<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. Ralph Wilcox, and inviting him to appear before the  
2 House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Ralph Wilcox grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as the son of the late Mr.  
4 Ralph Ben Wilcox and Mrs. Mulola Wilcox Sanford; and

5 WHEREAS, he attended the University of Milwaukee where he majored in theater; and

6 WHEREAS, he is a 30-year veteran actor on Broadway in New York and in Hollywood,  
7 California; and

8 WHEREAS, he has received numerous acting credits including Broadway plays *The Wiz*  
9 (with the original company) and *Ain't Suppose to Die a Natural Death*, and in the film and  
10 television *China Moon*, *Silent Victim*, *The Cape*, *In the Heat of the Night*, and *The Ruby*  
11 *Bridges Story*; and

12 WHEREAS, he spent six and one-half years in Africa producing documentaries on the lives  
13 of missionaries, and upon returning to the United States he worked in Florida, North  
14 Carolina, and Georgia, and eventually relocated to southwest Georgia, where his experience  
15 has allowed him to use the film and television industry as a vehicle for economic  
16 development; and

17 WHEREAS, he was appointed Southwest Georgia Film Commission Director by the  
18 Community Development Corporation of Miller County, and he markets over 14 counties  
19 to the film and television industry; and

20 WHEREAS, he is the director of the nonprofit HennyPenny Video/Television Production  
21 Company, Inc., which trains youth, some of which are considered to be disenfranchised, and

1 adults in the disciplines of the film and television industry, in such areas as lighting, cameras,  
2 sound, hair and make-up, wardrobe, set construction, and editing; and

3 WHEREAS, the HennyPenny Training Program is a certificate program at Bainbridge  
4 College and an add-on program at Andrew College in Cuthbert, Georgia, which has managed  
5 to survive on small grants and presently has over 35 students enrolled; and

6 WHEREAS, he is the chief executive officer and executive producer of Schusters Cash,  
7 LLC, a film, video, and television production company; and

8 WHEREAS, he was the force behind a new sound stage and a new building which houses  
9 the Jokara-Micheaux Production Studio, a 22,000 square-foot facility located in Colquitt,  
10 Georgia; and

11 WHEREAS, he has successfully staged two film festivals in Southwest Georgia, using Miller  
12 and Early counties as the epicenter, and recently raised funds for a low-budget project, *The*  
13 *Lena Baker Story*, the story of the first and only woman in Georgia's history to receive the  
14 electric chair, due to be released in 2008; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Wilcox contributes his success to grace, hard work, consistency, and the  
16 support of those who have embraced his vision.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
18 the members of this body recognize Mr. Ralph Wilcox and commend him on his numerous  
19 outstanding accomplishments, and invite him to appear before this body at a date and time  
20 designated by the Speaker of the House for the purpose of being recognized by the House  
21 and receiving an appropriate copy of this resolution.