

Senate Resolution 1206

By: Senators Tarver of the 22nd, Powell of the 23rd, Reed of the 35th, Seay of the 34th, Jones of the 10th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Honorable John H. "Jack" Ruffin, Jr.; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Honorable John H. "Jack" Ruffin has long been recognized by the citizens of
3 the State of Georgia and Richmond County for the vital role that he has played in leadership
4 and his deep personal commitment to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Judge Ruffin is a native of Waynesboro, Georgia, and attended Morehouse
6 College in Atlanta, Georgia, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science
7 and Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C., where he earned his law degree;
8 and
- 9 WHEREAS, he is a loving husband to his wife Judith, and a devoted father to his son
10 Brinkley, and his two grandsons, Bryson and Myles; and
- 11 WHEREAS, he has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time,
12 talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and this state as evidenced
13 dramatically by his many years of superlative service as a Judge of the Court of Appeals of
14 Georgia and as a Judge of the Superior Court of the Augusta Judicial Circuit; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Judge Ruffin became the 62nd Judge of the Court of Appeals of Georgia when
16 he was administered the oath of office by Governor Zell Miller on August 24, 1994, after 33
17 years of practicing law and serving on the superior court bench of the Augusta Judicial
18 Circuit, appointed in 1986 by Governor Joe Frank Harris, where he served until he was
19 appointed to the Court of Appeals; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Judge Ruffin was the first African-American Superior Court Judge for the
21 Augusta Judicial Circuit, the first African-American member of the Augusta Bar Association,
22 the third African-American and first African-American Chief Judge to serve on the Court of

1 Appeals of Georgia, and the first African-American barrister to have his likeness displayed
2 in the Waynesboro courthouse; and

3 WHEREAS, he is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, the bars of the Supreme Court of
4 Georgia, the United States Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the
5 Eleventh Circuit, the United States District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of
6 Georgia, and he has numerous professional, civic, and religious affiliations; and

7 WHEREAS, his significant organizational and leadership talents, his remarkable patience
8 and diplomacy, his keen sense of vision, his affable personality and razor wit, and his
9 sensitivity to the needs of the citizens of this state and his community have earned him the
10 respect and admiration of his colleagues and associates; and

11 WHEREAS, he is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for
12 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; and

13 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
14 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
16 recognize Honorable John H. "Jack" Ruffin and commend him for his efficient, effective,
17 unselfish, and dedicated public service and extend to him their most sincere best wishes for
18 continued health and happiness.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
20 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Honorable John H. "Jack" Ruffin.