

House Resolution 1992

By: Representatives Carter of the 159th, Stephens of the 164th, Gordon of the 162nd, Jackson of the 161st, Bryant of the 160th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and honoring the life of Frank S. Cheatham, Jr.; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Frank S. Cheatham, Jr., was a courageous yet humble man who lived the
3 greatness his father foresaw; and
- 4 WHEREAS, he has long been recognized by the citizens of this state for the vital role that
5 he played in community leadership and his deep personal commitment to public service and
6 the State of Georgia; and
- 7 WHEREAS, he was born in Savannah, Georgia, on January 11, 1924, and received his early
8 education at Savannah High School and then attended Armstrong Junior College and the
9 University of Georgia, where he received an Associate Bachelor degree and his LL.B.
10 degree; and
- 11 WHEREAS, a lawyer by profession, he became involved in several areas of public service
12 that have provided major benefits to his community and the state; and
- 13 WHEREAS, he was elected to the General Assembly in 1953, a candidate of the Citizens
14 Committee, a reform political party, and played a leading role in the passage of a charter
15 converting Savannah to the more efficient council-manager form of government, and within
16 two years the city went from near bankruptcy to the well-run solvent government of today;
17 and
- 18 WHEREAS, he was also responsible for the legislation which made junior colleges part of
19 the university system and elevated several of these junior colleges to four-year universities
20 and he was chairman of the powerful Appropriations Committee his last two years in the
21 General Assembly; and

1 WHEREAS, after his legislative career, he became heavily involved in the Savannah YMCA
2 serving as president in the 1960's and being instrumental in the YMCA becoming integrated
3 in Chatham County; and

4 WHEREAS, after 24 years of practicing law, on March 31, 1972, he was appointed by
5 Governor Jimmy Carter to fill a vacancy on the Chatham County Superior Court and served
6 in that capacity for 21 years, retiring as chief judge and taking senior judge status on August
7 31, 1993, and resigning from senior judge status on May 2, 2006; and

8 WHEREAS, he was a loving husband to his wife of 31 years, Rebecca Aultman Cheatham,
9 and loving father and grandfather to his two daughters and grandson; and

10 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
11 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; his loyalty, competency, reliability, and
12 enthusiasm distinguished his superlative service to this state; and his friendship was counted
13 by everyone as a special experience they will always treasure; and

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

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
17 the members of this body recognize Frank S. Cheatham, Jr.; honor him for his many decades
18 of efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated public service to the citizens of this state; and
19 extend to his family their most sincere condolences.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
21 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Frank S.
22 Cheatham, Jr.