

House Resolution 2081

By: Representative Dempsey of the 13th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Celebrating the life of Phyllis Wright-Davis and commending her community service; and
- 2 for other purposes.

- 3 WHEREAS, at the time of her death, Phyllis Wright-Davis was quietly working on her
- 4 father's nomination for a Heart of the Community Award. It would never have occurred to
- 5 her that, in the process, she might earn one herself. But her colleagues felt her life of service
- 6 to Rome and Floyd County more than qualified her for the honor; and

- 7 WHEREAS, she dedicated her community service to the youth, to the elderly and to
- 8 low-income families throughout Rome and Floyd County for over 20 years. A poised and
- 9 articulate professional, Phyllis Wright-Davis received her Bachelor of Arts degree from
- 10 Spellman College and an Associate of Science from Gupton Jones College of Funeral
- 11 Services in Atlanta; and

- 12 WHEREAS, returning to Rome in the 1980's, Phyllis Wright-Davis volunteered her time to
- 13 feed residents at the yearly Love Feast, which provides a hot dinner to anyone in need.
- 14 During the event, she provided clothes and personal items to anyone who needed them. She
- 15 was a volunteer board member for the United Way, South Rome Redevelopment
- 16 Corporation, the City of Rome's Tourism Committee, the American Red Cross, the Salvation
- 17 Army, and the Heart of the Community Foundation; and

- 18 WHEREAS, few people volunteered with such vigor. She most appreciated anonymous
- 19 service, giving without expectation of fanfare, good deeds without a glimmer of reward or
- 20 notice. As a result, she served as a Certified Facilitator for Nurturing Parenting God's Way.
- 21 She was a graduate of Leadership Rome and received the National NAACP Youth Advisor
- 22 Award of the Year for four consecutive years. Under her leadership, the youth of the NAACP
- 23 Rome/Floyd Youth Council provided desserts for the prisoners at the Blacks Bluff Road
- 24 Prison on Thanksgiving and Christmas. She also served as Secretary of the Martin Luther
- 25 King, Jr. Commission; and

1 WHEREAS, in one of her memoirs, Phyllis noted that her work as a volunteer mentor for
2 Annie K. Davis Elementary School brought her great joy. She believed in motivating
3 students. She felt that good work deserved notice, so she helped initiate a trolley ride for
4 students making the Honor Roll each semester. Innovative and hardly predictable, she looked
5 for ways to entice young people to learn; and

6 WHEREAS, the oldest daughter of Joe and Dorothy Wright, Phyllis was the wife of Ralph
7 Davis, mother of two sons, Brian and Phillip Davis, and grandmother to Jaden and Brianne
8 Davis. A faithful member of Thankful Baptist Church, she volunteered her time to prepare
9 lunch for the needy at the church. She and her husband, Ralph, mentored Club Hero
10 participants in a drug prevention program for teenagers. It was not uncommon for her to
11 provide funds to aid substance abuse clients who needed bus tickets for transportation to
12 treatment centers. Hers was a truly anonymous form of giving back; and

13 WHEREAS, Phyllis Wright-Davis lived her life to the fullest each day, every day. As her
14 biography suggests, she was empathetic, bright, connected, and genuine. She was one of the
15 most individual of volunteers. She picked her involvement carefully and she knew that if she
16 served well, her life would be her greatest legacy. For Phyllis Wright-Davis, it is a legacy
17 dominated by good deeds.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
19 the members of this body celebrate the life well-lived of Phyllis Wright-Davis and offer
20 condolences to her friends and family upon her passing.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
22 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Phyllis
23 Wright-Davis.