

## House Resolution 854

By: Representatives Abrams of the 84<sup>th</sup>, Mangham of the 94<sup>th</sup>, Mosby of the 90<sup>th</sup>, Stephenson of the 92<sup>nd</sup>, Dawkins-Haigler of the 93<sup>rd</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Azzie Lee Preston; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
3 with the passing of Mrs. Azzie Lee Preston on March 6, 2009; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Preston was born on March 24, 1942, in Monticello, Georgia, a beloved  
5 daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Booker T. Jefferson; and
- 6 WHEREAS, she attended Jasper County public schools, where she excelled in academics and  
7 basketball, graduating in 1959; and
- 8 WHEREAS, passionate about equal rights and civic duty, Mrs. Preston fought with the  
9 NAACP for voter rights and to change discriminatory practices; and
- 10 WHEREAS, the devotion of her time, talents, and energy was instrumental in the racial  
11 integration of many public venues throughout DeKalb County; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Mrs. Preston ably advocated for DeKalb County, including serving as Director  
13 of Constituent Services for Representative Stacey Abrams from 2007 until her tragic passing;  
14 and
- 15 WHEREAS, Mrs. Preston was united in love and marriage to the late Willie James Preston,  
16 Sr., on July 11, 1966, and she was blessed with two remarkable children, Willie and Dacia,  
17 and a granddaughter, Ashley; and
- 18 WHEREAS, she gave inspiration to many through her high ideals, morals, and deep concern  
19 for her fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding she demonstrated to  
20 her family and friends were admired by others; and

21 WHEREAS, Mrs. Preston was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable  
22 reputation for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness and, by the example she made  
23 of her life, she made this world a better place in which to live; and

24 WHEREAS, she will long be remembered for her love of family and friendship, and this  
25 loyal mother, aunt, and friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing  
26 her.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
28 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Azzie Lee Preston  
29 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at her passing.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
31 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mrs. Azzie  
32 Lee Preston.