

House Resolution 173

By: Representatives Stephens of the 161st, Williams of the 165th, Bryant of the 160th, Gordon of the 162nd, Brooks of the 63rd, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Reverend Bennie Mitchell, Jr.; 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 Reverend Bennie Mitchell, Jr.; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Reverend Mitchell was born on April 24, 1948, in Edgefield, South Carolina,
5 a beloved son of Mattie and Deacon Bennie R. Mitchell; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he earned a bachelor's degree from Benedict College, a Master of Divinity
7 degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center, and an honorary Doctor of Divinity
8 degree from Mississippi Baptist Seminary; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Reverend Mitchell served as the manager of the New York Housing Authority
10 and taught public school in South Carolina and Georgia; and
- 11 WHEREAS, an active community servant, Reverend Mitchell was a member of Savannah's
12 West Broad Street YMCA Board of Directors, the Savannah Mayor's Council Youth
13 Program, the Advisory Council Youth Program, the advisory board to the Superintendent of
14 Education for the Savannah-Chatham County Board of Public Education, and the Savannah
15 Technical College board of directors; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Reverend Mitchell was united in love and marriage to his wife, Betty, and was
17 blessed with three remarkable children, Benita, Bendette, and Bennie III, and three wonderful
18 grandchildren, Mychal, Ocoee, and L. Lineco; and
- 19 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern
20 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his
21 family and friends were admired by others; and

22 WHEREAS, Reverend Mitchell has been recognized with numerous honors and accolades,
23 including the Ivan Allen, Jr., Award for Excellence in Human Relations, Outstanding
24 Georgia Citizen, Omega Man of the Year in 2001, and a Fannie Lou Hamer Award; and

25 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
26 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness and, by the example he made of his life, he
27 made this world a better place in which to live; and

28 WHEREAS, whether preparing a sermon, visiting the sick, counseling the troubled, baptizing
29 a new believer, or acting as a theologian, educator, administrator, or humanitarian, Reverend
30 Mitchell served as a shining example of God's righteous path; and

31 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Reverend Mitchell will long be
32 remembered for his love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father, grandfather,
33 and friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
35 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Reverend Bennie Mitchell,
36 Jr., and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
38 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Reverend
39 Bennie Mitchell, Jr.