

## House Resolution 177

By: Representative Brooks of the 63<sup>rd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Ms. Johnnie Young Penn; 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 Ms. Johnnie Young Penn on September 27, 2010; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Ms. Penn was born on September 10, 1942, in Eatonton, Georgia, a beloved  
5 daughter of Johnny and Nellie Simmes Young; and
- 6 WHEREAS, a graduate of Butler-Baker High School, Ms. Penn retired from Vought Aircraft  
7 Industry and went on to work with the Putnam County Voter Registration Department; and
- 8 WHEREAS, a woman of deep and abiding faith, Ms. Penn was an active member of First  
9 United Methodist Church, where she uplifted the congregation with her beautiful voice in the  
10 chancel choir; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Ms. Penn was a member of the Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials,  
12 the NAACP, and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; and
- 13 WHEREAS, passionate about education, Ms. Penn was a member of the Putnam County  
14 Board of Education, director nominee for Georgia Partnerships for Excellence in Education,  
15 vice president of the Georgia School Boards Association, and a member of the National  
16 School Boards Association; and
- 17 WHEREAS, she served on the original board which brought the Eatonton-Putnam Arts  
18 Foundation into existence and transformed the old abandoned Eatonton school house into the  
19 Plaza Arts Center; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Ms. Penn leaves behind many who will cherish her memory, including her  
21 sisters, Vera Nell Owens and Adella Lowe; her brothers, Ernest Lee Young and Herschel

22 Young; her brother-in-law, George Jordan; and numerous nieces, nephews, and loved ones;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, she gave inspiration to many through her high ideals, morals, and deep concern  
25 for her fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding she demonstrated to  
26 her family and friends were admired by others; and

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

30 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, Ms. Penn will long be remembered for  
31 her love of family and friendship, and this loyal sister, aunt, and friend will be missed by all  
32 who had the great fortune of knowing her.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
34 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Ms. Johnnie Young Penn  
35 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at her passing.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
37 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Ms. Johnnie  
38 Young Penn.