

House Resolution 408

By: Representatives Howard of the 121st, Murphy of the 120th, Frazier of the 123rd, Sims of the 119th, Stephenson of the 92nd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the life of Mrs. Rosa Tarver Beard and dedicating a bridge in her memory; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Rosa T. Beard was born in Blythe, Georgia, on November 22, 1919, the oldest
4 child to the union of Mr. and Mrs. Gartrell (Ollie Brown) Tarver; and

5 WHEREAS, before settling in the Turpin Hill neighborhood of Augusta, Georgia, the family
6 resided in Cairo, Georgia, and Thomasville, Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, on June 27, 1948, she married the love of her life, Ernest Beard, and the
8 marriage was blessed by four loving children, Rosa Ann, Kathryn Lorraine, Ernest Eric, and
9 Cheryl Juanita; and

10 WHEREAS, after graduating from Paine High School in 1938, she obtained a bachelor's
11 degree in home economics and natural science from Paine College in 1942 and earned a
12 master's degree in education and chemistry from Columbia University Teachers College in
13 New York in 1951; and

14 WHEREAS, she was a dedicated educator for 41 years; her professional career began in
15 1942 at Bettis Academy and Junior College in Trenton College, South Carolina, and
16 continued at the Charles T. Walker Elementary School, the Augustus R. Johnson Junior High
17 School, and T.W. Josey High School, all in Augusta, Georgia; and

18 WHEREAS, she was committed to the academic, social, and cultural development of young
19 people, so she started the Rosa T. Beard Debutante Club, and for nearly five decades she
20 helped groom thousands of young women for adult society; and

21 WHEREAS, she diligently served at Antioch Baptist Church for some 50 years, participating
22 in choirs, as a Sunday school teacher, missionary, and trustee; and

23 WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that a lasting memorial to the life well lived of this
24 elegant and courageous woman be established.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
26 GEORGIA that the members of this body celebrate the life of service of Mrs. Rosa Tarver
27 Beard and dedicate the bridge on SR 4 over 15th Street and the railroad tracks near
28 Wrightsboro Road in Augusta, Georgia, and Richmond County as the Rosa T. Beard
29 Memorial Bridge.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
31 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Rosa T. Beard Memorial
32 Bridge.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
34 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mrs. Rosa T.
35 Beard and the Department of Transportation.