

**ADOPTED**

Senators Davis of the 22nd, Stone of the 23rd and Mullis of the 53rd offered the following amendment:

1 *Amend the Senate Transportation Committee substitute to SR 343 (LC 34 3028S) by adding*  
 2 *between lines 183 and 184 the following:*

**PART VIII-B**

4 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia recently lost one of her most distinguished public servants,  
 5 innovative legal minds, and civil rights advocate with the passing of the Honorable John H.  
 6 Ruffin, Jr.; and

7 WHEREAS, Judge John H. Ruffin, Jr., became the 62nd Judge of the Court of Appeals of  
 8 Georgia when he was administered the oath of office by Governor Zell Miller on August 24,  
 9 1994, after 33 years of practicing law and serving on the superior court bench; and

10 WHEREAS, Judge Ruffin was born and reared in Waynesboro, Burke County, Georgia, the  
 11 son of John H. Ruffin, Sr., and Anna Davis Ruffin, and he was a graduate of Waynesboro  
 12 High and Industrial School, Morehouse College, and Howard University School of Law in  
 13 Washington, D.C.; and

14 WHEREAS, he was admitted to the Georgia Bar on July 5, 1961; and

15 WHEREAS, he was appointed a Superior Court Judge of the Augusta Judicial Circuit in  
 16 1986 by Governor Joe Frank Harris and he continued to serve as a superior court judge until  
 17 his appointment to the Court of Appeals; and

18 WHEREAS, in addition to being the first African American Superior Court Judge for the  
 19 Augusta Judicial Circuit, Judge Ruffin was also the first African American member of the  
 20 Augusta Bar Association, and the third African American and first African American Chief  
 21 Judge to serve on the Court of Appeals of Georgia; and

22 WHEREAS, in addition to his membership in the State Bar of Georgia, Judge Ruffin was a  
 23 member of the bars of the Supreme Court of Georgia, United States Supreme Court, United  
 24 States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and United States District Courts for the  
 25 Southern and Middle Districts of Georgia; and

26 WHEREAS, Judge Ruffin had many professional, civic and religious affiliations, including:  
27 Council of Superior Court Judges of Georgia; Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia;  
28 Tenth Judicial Administrative District; Chairman, Board of Trustees, Institute of Continuing  
29 Judicial Education; Georgia Commission on Gender Bias; Court Reform Committee,  
30 Governor's Conference on Justice in Georgia; Georgia Association of Criminal Defense  
31 Lawyers; Georgia Advisory Council to the Legal Services Program; Judicial Nominating  
32 Commission; Georgia Conference of Black Lawyers, Inc.; State Bar Judicial Compensation  
33 Committee; American Judicature Society; National Bar Association; American Bar  
34 Association; Augusta Bar Association; and the Atlanta Bar Association; and

35 WHEREAS, he was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Council of Superior Court Judges and  
36 was on track to become the first African American to serve as President of the Council of  
37 Superior Court Judges of Georgia prior to his appointment to the Court of Appeals; and

38 WHEREAS, Judge Ruffin and his beautiful wife, Judith, had one son, Brinkley, and two  
39 grandsons, Bryson and Myles; and

40 WHEREAS, Judge Ruffin and his family are members of the Tabernacle Baptist Church in  
41 Augusta; and

42 WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that a lasting memorial to the life and outstanding  
43 career of Judge John H. Ruffin, Jr., be established.

44 *By adding between lines 213 and 214 the following:*

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body celebrate the life and  
46 outstanding career and many accomplishments of Judge John H. Ruffin, Jr., and dedicate the  
47 portion of SR 25 beginning at SR 88 to the Burke County line as the Judge John H. Ruffin,  
48 Jr. Memorial Highway.

49 *By deleting "and" on line 221.*

50 *By deleting the second period and adding at the end of line 222 the following:*

51 and to the family of Judge John H. Ruffin, Jr.