

## Senate Resolution 667

By: Senators Ramsey, Sr. of the 43rd, Henson of the 41st, Jones of the 10th and Butler of the 55th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Dedicating the entire length of Snapfinger Road in DeKalb County from its intersection with  
2 Wesley Chapel Road to the Henry County line as the Martin Luther King, Jr., Parkway; and  
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., stands as one of the most prominent  
5 Georgians of the 20th Century; and

6 WHEREAS, Rev. King attended public school in Georgia, graduating from high school at  
7 the age of 15, and received his bachelor's degree in 1948 from Morehouse College; and

8 WHEREAS, after three years of theological study at Crozer Theological Seminary in  
9 Pennsylvania, where he was elected president of the senior class, he was awarded a divinity  
10 degree in 1951, and, with a fellowship won at Crozer, he enrolled in graduate studies at  
11 Boston University, completing his residence for the doctorate in 1953 and receiving his  
12 doctoral degree in 1955; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1957, he was elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership  
14 Conference, and, in the 11 years between 1957 and 1968, he traveled over 6 million miles  
15 and spoke over 2,500 times in support of civil rights and wrote five books as well as  
16 numerous articles; and

17 WHEREAS, he led a massive protest in Birmingham, Alabama, that caught the attention of  
18 the entire world, providing what he called a coalition of conscience and inspiring his "Letter  
19 from a Birmingham Jail," a manifesto of the Civil Rights Movement in the United States; and

20 WHEREAS, he also planned and participated in numerous protests and demonstrations for  
21 the cause of civil rights including the peaceful march on Washington, D.C., of 250,000  
22 people to whom he delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" address at the Lincoln Memorial;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, he was awarded five honorary degrees; was named Man of the Year by *Time*  
25 magazine in 1963; and, at the age of 35, was the youngest man to have been awarded the  
26 Nobel Peace Prize; and

27 WHEREAS, through his tireless work on behalf of civil rights for all people, he became not  
28 only the symbolic leader of African Americans in the United States but also a world figure  
29 in the fight for justice for all; and

30 WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to dedicate the entire length of Snapfinger Road in  
31 DeKalb County from its intersection with Wesley Chapel Road to the Henry County line as  
32 the Martin Luther King, Jr., Parkway as an appropriate tribute to this outstanding Georgian.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
34 GEORGIA that the members of this body honor the life and contributions of Rev. Martin  
35 Luther King, Jr., and his dedicated service to and sacrifice for this state and nation.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the entire length of Snapfinger Road in DeKalb County  
37 from its intersection with Wesley Chapel Road to the Henry County line is dedicated as the  
38 Martin Luther King, Jr., Parkway.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and  
40 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Martin Luther King, Jr.,  
41 Parkway.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
43 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Department of Transportation.