

House Resolution 1697

By: Representatives Beasley-Teague of the 65<sup>th</sup>, Kendrick of the 94<sup>th</sup>, Dickerson of the 95<sup>th</sup>, Dawkins-Haigler of the 93<sup>rd</sup>, Stephenson of the 92<sup>nd</sup>, and others

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dr. Pauline Knight-Ofosu; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Pauline Knight-Ofosu is a native of Nashville, Tennessee, and a beloved  
3 daughter of the late Grover Cleveland Knight and Florence Evelyn Durette Knight; and

4 WHEREAS, she graduated from Pearl Senior High in 1958 and received a degree in Biology  
5 from A&E State University in Tennessee in 1962, a Medical Technologist degree from St.  
6 Vincent's School of Medical Technology in 1963, and a Doctor of Humane Letters degree  
7 in 2008; and

8 WHEREAS, she became an active member of the Student Central Committee of the  
9 Nashville Christian Leadership Council in 1960, where she participated in the Freedom  
10 Rides, which resulted in her arrest and imprisonment in Jackson, Mississippi, and expulsion  
11 from A&E State University; and

12 WHEREAS, the Freedom Riders filed a lawsuit, *Pauline Knight, et al. v. Tennessee State*  
13 *Board of Education et al.*, which resulted in her reinstatement; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Knight-Ofosu was employed as a medical technologist for five years,  
15 during which time she taught laboratory techniques to sophomore medical students at  
16 Howard University Medical School, Introduction to Allied Health, and Morality and Ethics  
17 to honors classes at Clark Atlanta University while writing an environmental health  
18 curriculum and managing and operating all four diagnostics laboratories at the Atlanta V.A.  
19 Hospital; and

20 WHEREAS, she was recruited by the late Civil Rights icon, Vivian Malone Jones, to be the  
21 first female pesticides inspector to the United States Environmental Protection Agency; and

22 WHEREAS, she graduated in Class II from the Women's Executive Leadership Program in  
23 February of 1988 where her program highlights included a tour of service at the Washington,  
24 D.C., Congressional Office of the Honorable Congressman, John R. Lewis, and tours of  
25 service in the Environmental Protection Agency's headquarters and Region IV Offices of  
26 Management and Systems Evaluations and Accountability Systems branch; and

27 WHEREAS, she contributed to the Civil Rights oral history in 2004 by participating in the  
28 AARP "Voices of Civil Rights" bus tour held at the Auburn Avenue Research Library; and

29 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
30 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
32 the members of this body commend Dr. Pauline Knight-Ofosu for her efficient, effective,  
33 unselfish, and dedicated public service and recognize her many contributions to education  
34 and the Civil Rights Movement.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
36 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Dr. Pauline Knight-Ofosu.