

House Resolution 1707

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

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of the Honorable Grace Wilkerson Davis; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
4 with the passing of the Honorable Grace Wilkerson Davis on May 3, 2011; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Davis was united in love and marriage to Curtis Davis and was
6 blessed with a remarkable son, Curtis Davis, Jr., two wonderful grandchildren, and two
7 adored great-grandchildren; and

8 WHEREAS, while in New York, Representative Davis got her first taste of politics while
9 working for the election of John Lindsay as the city's mayor in 1965; and

10 WHEREAS, she moved back to Georgia in the late 1960s and began working at WAOK
11 radio station as a controller and accountant, and she became involved with the Civil Rights
12 Movement after the leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Representative
13 Brooks, along with other members showed up at the station to show support for the African
14 American staff; and

15 WHEREAS, she accompanied Representative Brooks and others in a motorcade to Plains to
16 protest President Jimmy Carter's firing of the United Nations Ambassador, Andrew Young;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the Honorable Grace Davis was an outspoken advocate in the Georgia House
19 of Representatives from 1987 to 1998; and

20 WHEREAS, Representative Davis was credited with successfully shepherding a bill to
21 passage that slapped stiffer controls on mortgage refinance practices, which prevented
22 hundreds of low-income homeowners from losing their homes; and

23 WHEREAS, she also won passage of her bill to create a Georgia commission on the status
24 of women, which mandated the study of state laws and policies to recommend more educated
25 approaches for dealing with women's issues; and

26 WHEREAS, Representative Davis was appointed project director of the Aging Services
27 Division in Georgia's Department of Human Services, a position she held for four years; and

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

31 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, Representative Davis will long be
32 remembered for her love of family and friendship, and this loyal daughter, wife, mother,
33 grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune
34 of knowing her.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
36 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of the Honorable Grace
37 Wilkerson Davis and express their deepest and most sincere regret at her passing.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
39 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of the Honorable
40 Grace Wilkerson Davis.