

House Resolution 58EX

By: Representative Brooks of the 63rd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Octavia Vivian; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
3 with the passing of Mrs. Octavia Vivian on May 5, 2011; and
- 4 WHEREAS, a native of Michigan, Mrs. Vivian was committed to social causes, fighting for
5 racial freedom and equality alongside her husband, Reverend C.T. Vivian; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Vivian earned a bachelor's degree in social work from Eastern Michigan
7 University, was a pillar for the Civil Rights movement at the local level, and worked in
8 public relations at Morris Brown College; and
- 9 WHEREAS, she helped desegregate DeKalb County public schools and was one of the
10 county's first black deputy voter registrars; and
- 11 WHEREAS, a talented writer and close friend of Mrs. Coretta Scott King, Mrs. Vivian wrote
12 *Coretta*, the biography of Mrs. King in 1970 which is now published in several languages;
13 and
- 14 WHEREAS, in addition to her husband, Mrs. Vivian leaves behind many who will cherish
15 her memory, including her children, Kira E. Vivian, Anita Charisse Thornton, Jo Anna
16 Walker, Mark Evans Vivian, and Albert Louis Vivian; 14 grandchildren; and 17
17 great-grandchildren; and
- 18 WHEREAS, she gave inspiration to many through her high ideals, morals, and deep concern
19 for her fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding she demonstrated to
20 her family and friends were admired by others; and

21 WHEREAS, she was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
22 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness and, by the example she made of her life,
23 she made this world a better place in which to live; and

24 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, Mrs. Vivian will long be remembered
25 for her love of family and friendship, and this loyal wife, mother, grandmother, and friend
26 will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing her.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
28 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Octavia Vivian and
29 express their deepest and most sincere regret at her passing.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
31 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mrs. Octavia
32 Vivian.