

House Resolution 84EX

By: Representatives Ashe of the 56th, Smyre of the 132nd, Oliver of the 83rd, Lindsey of the 54th, Gardner of the 57th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Clinton Deveaux upon his retirement; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Clinton Deveaux was born in Manhattan, New York, in 1946 to proud parents
3 Clinton and Bloneva Deveaux. He lived in the Bahamas from 1948 until 1953 when he
4 returned to New York City. He attended public schools in Queens, graduating from Andrew
5 Jackson High School in 1963 and he went on to State University at Buffalo, where he earned
6 a Bachelor's of Arts degree in 1967; and
- 7 WHEREAS, in December, 1969, Judge Deveaux came to Atlanta to work with the Southern
8 Christian Leadership Conference and help in Andrew Young's first United States House of
9 Representatives' campaign in 1970 and was active in Ambassador Young's successful 1972
10 campaign; and
- 11 WHEREAS, beginning in 1970, the judge served as executive director of the Southern
12 Elections Fund which focused on raising funds to support black and progressive white
13 candidates in political campaigns across the South. He was also active in the Atlanta branch
14 of the NAACP as well as the Georgia ACLU. He served as the Georgia ACLU president for
15 five years in the 1970's. He was also a member of the board of the Arts Festival of Atlanta
16 and a founding member of the Atlanta Black United Fund; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Judge Deveaux began law school at Emory University in the fall of 1971. He
18 took a leave of absence in 1972 to work on the McGovern presidential campaign in the first
19 year in which 18 year olds could vote in every state. He then returned to law school,
20 graduating in 1975 and became a member of the Georgia bar. His first job as a lawyer was
21 with a small general practice firm, Harmon and Smith; and
- 22 WHEREAS, Judge Deveaux continued his political life, working in the congressional
23 campaigns of Andrew Young and the mayoral campaigns of Maynard Jackson. He

24 successfully ran for office in 1976, representing the 28th district in the Georgia House of
25 Representatives for one term from January 1977 to January 1979; and

26 WHEREAS, on January 20, 1981, he was sworn in as a Municipal Court of Atlanta Judge
27 by the late Mayor Maynard Jackson. He has been re-elected to the court in every successive
28 Atlanta election since. From May 1994 until July 2004, Judge Deveaux handled domestic
29 and family violence cases exclusively as the court's response to a major revision in Georgia's
30 domestic violence law. In August 2004, he was named Presiding Judge of the Community
31 Court Division by then Chief Judge Deborah Greene. Early in his career, he developed a
32 Family Therapy Referral Program using experienced family therapists to assist defendants
33 in changing their behavior by helping them understand the legal requirements of
34 accountability and consequence; and

35 WHEREAS, throughout his career, Judge Deveaux has served as advisor, board member and
36 trustee, chairman, or faculty member of many nationally recognized institutions such as the
37 National Center for Children in Poverty (Columbia University), The Alan Guttmacher
38 Institute, the Family Institute of New Jersey, the National Judicial College and the American
39 Bar Association. He has also been active professionally and personally in many other local
40 and national civic causes and organizations such as Atlanta's Emmaus House Episcopal
41 Diocese, a place he loves dearly; and

42 WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that Judge Deveaux be commended for his
43 outstanding career upon his retirement.

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
45 the members of this body recognize and commend Judge Deveaux for his outstanding public
46 service and wish him good health and continued success in his new undertakings.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
48 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Judge Deveaux.