

## House Resolution 796

By: Representatives Brooks of the 55<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 165<sup>th</sup>, Bryant of the 162<sup>nd</sup>, Wilkinson of the 52<sup>nd</sup>, Thomas of the 56<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. Johnnie Paul Jones, Sr.; 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 Mr. Johnnie Paul Jones, Sr., on February 27, 2013; and
- 4 WHEREAS, he was born on March 23, 1919, a beloved son of the late William Martin Jones  
5 and Estella Maude Tiggler; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Mr. Jones graduated from Booker T. Washington High School and attended  
7 Morehouse College and the Atlanta Police Academy; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he was a cum laude graduate of Savannah State College and did additional  
9 studies at Armstrong Atlantic State University and the Georgia Institute of Technology; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Mr. Jones served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the  
11 United States Army during World War II and earned three battle stars; and
- 12 WHEREAS, in 1948, he was one of the first eight African American police officers hired in  
13 Atlanta, Georgia; and in 2004, Mayor Shirley Franklin paid special tribute to him and the  
14 "magnificent eight," calling him a living legend whose bravery established a legacy for  
15 providing a shining example to all; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Mr. Jones served as project manager of the Housing Authority of Savannah and  
17 retired as rent schedule supervisor; was the first African American to chair the Chatham  
18 County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission, serving on the board for 20 years; and  
19 served on the Zoning Board of Appeals; and
- 20 WHEREAS, he was a founding member of the Liberty City-Richfield-Southover Community  
21 Association, serving as secretary for 34 years; and

22 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, he was a member of Mount Zion Baptist  
23 Church where he chaired numerous ministries and spearheaded many projects; and

24 WHEREAS, he is survived by the love of his life, Parnell M. Jones; his children, Johnnie  
25 Paul Jones, Jr., Elmira Williams, and Estella Miller; and nine grandchildren, two  
26 great-grandchildren, and many other family members and friends; and

27 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. Jones will long be remembered for his  
28 love of family and friendship, and he will be missed by all who had the great fortune of  
29 knowing him.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
31 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. Johnnie Paul Jones,  
32 Sr. and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
34 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. Johnnie  
35 Paul Jones, Sr.