

House Resolution 811

By: Representatives Jones of the 53rd, Brooks of the 55th, Thomas of the 56th, Beasley-Teague of the 65th, Scott of the 76th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Dr. Asa G. Yancey, 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 Dr. Asa G. Yancey, Sr.; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Dr. Yancey was the valedictorian of Booker T. Washington High School's class
5 of 1933 before going to Morehouse College and earned a bachelor's degree in 1937; he later
6 attended the University of Michigan Medical School, where he was one of four African
7 Americans in the Class of 1941; and
- 8 WHEREAS, after an internship in Cleveland, he took a two-year surgical residency at
9 Freedmen's Hospital at Howard University School of Medicine in Washington where he
10 studied under the distinguished Dr. Charles R. Drew; and
- 11 WHEREAS, in 1948, Dr. Yancey was appointed chief of surgery at Tuskegee Veterans
12 Administration Hospital; ten years later, he joined the faculty at Emory University and
13 became the chief of surgery at the former Hughes Spalding Pavilion of Grady Memorial
14 Hospital, a position he held from 1958 to 1972; and
- 15 WHEREAS, during his tenure at Grady, Dr. Yancey put together an accredited surgical
16 training program for African Americans, a first in Georgia at the time, and in 1972, he
17 became the medical director at Grady and associate dean of Emory's medical school before
18 his retirement in 1989; and
- 19 WHEREAS, he chaired the Atlanta Board of Education's Committee for the "Atlanta Plan"
20 and aided in the desegregation of Atlanta public schools; and
- 21 WHEREAS, Dr. Yancey was a member of several organizations including the American
22 Surgical Association; the Southern Surgical Association, of which he was the first African

23 American member; and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People,
24 of which he was a Life and Golden Heritage Member; and

25 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Dr. Yancey was an active member of
26 Friendship Baptist Church from 1928 until his passing; and

27 WHEREAS, Dr. Yancey was united in love and marriage to the late Carolyn E. Dunbar for
28 more than 65 years until her passing in 2010 and the two were blessed with four beloved
29 children, Carolyn L. Yancey, M.D., the late Caren L. Yancey Covington, Arthur H. Yancey
30 II, M.D., and Asa G. Yancey, Jr., M.D.; and

31 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
32 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he made of his life, he
33 made this world a better place in which to live.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
35 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Dr. Asa G. Yancey, Sr.,
36 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
38 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Arthur H. Yancey II, M.D.,
39 Carolyn L. Yancey, M.D., and Asa G. Yancey, Jr., M.D.