

House Resolution 836

By: Representative Epps of the 132nd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. Willie Harold Johnson; 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. Willie Harold Johnson; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson was born in 1933 in Hogansville, a beloved son of the late Mary
5 "Mae" Johnson, and he received his education from West End High School; and
- 6 WHEREAS, the first African American to win and serve as mayor for the City of
7 Hogansville, Mr. Johnson was distinguished among his peers not only for his exemplary
8 leadership but also for his unwavering dedication to service; and
- 9 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
10 States Army, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans during the Korean
11 War and the Vietnam War, retiring as Specialist-6 in 1973 and then as Dietary Supervisor
12 of the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Atlanta in the early 1990s; and
- 13 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Mr. Johnson was a life-long member of St.
14 Mary United Methodist Church and was involved in the United Methodist Men Group, where
15 he took on leadership roles and served as a delegate to annual conferences; and
- 16 WHEREAS, he was a longtime member of the Shiner Lodge in LaGrange, where he
17 achieved the highest honor of a 33rd degree; and
- 18 WHEREAS, in his youth, Mr. Johnson achieved the Boy Scouts of America's highest rank,
19 Eagle Scout, and served later in life as a local Boy Scout Troop Leader; and

20 WHEREAS, after he retired from public service, Mr. Johnson opened Mike's Elite Café,
21 where he provided an opportunity for families and friends to have a meal and catch up and
22 a space to host private and public community events; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Johnson was united in love and marriage for over 57 years with Mrs. Annie
24 Johnson and was blessed with five remarkable children, eight wonderful grandchildren, and
25 three great-grandchildren; and

26 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern
27 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his
28 family and friends were admired by others; and

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

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
33 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. Willie Harold Johnson
34 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. Willie
37 Harold Johnson.