

House Resolution 866

By: Representative Jones of the 53rd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Brenda Ann Smith Clay; 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. Brenda Ann Smith Clay on February 23, 2013; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Clay was born on June 2, 1946, in Detroit, Michigan, a beloved daughter
5 of Wilson and Annie Grace Brazier Smith; and
- 6 WHEREAS, a woman of deep and abiding faith, Mrs. Clay was an active member of Zion
7 Hill Baptist Church, where she served faithfully in a variety of capacities; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Mrs. Clay earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology with a minor in
9 education from Spelman College and her master's degree in reading from Georgia State
10 University and her Education Specialist degree in leadership from Jacksonville State
11 University; and
- 12 WHEREAS, throughout her exemplary career as an educator, Mrs. Clay held numerous
13 positions within the Atlanta Public School District, from a caring elementary school teacher
14 at Birney Elementary School to reading specialist at Northside High School; and
- 15 WHEREAS, she was recognized for her outstanding dedication as an educator with several
16 awards, including Teacher of the Year and the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution's* Honor Teacher
17 Award; and
- 18 WHEREAS, she retired from the Atlanta Public School System after 35 years of dedicated
19 service but continued to serve the youth of this state through the Georgia State Department
20 of Education and the Atlanta Metropolitan College, and she also started an educational
21 consulting business called the Education Connection with her friend, Dr. Jacquelyn George;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, she set the standard for public service among her friends and colleagues as she
24 served the Atlanta community through involvement with the Upward Bound programs at
25 both Morris Brown College and Atlanta Metropolitan College, assisting as an exceptional
26 tutor for students with reading disabilities; and

27 WHEREAS, through her family's annual Christmas Party, Mrs. Clay helped to raise funds
28 for the Alzheimer's Association and donated toys for children through a number of worthy
29 causes; and

30 WHEREAS, Mrs. Clay was initiated into Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., through the
31 Atlanta Alumnae Chapter in Spring, 2003, and began immediately setting an example for
32 young women and contributing to the sisterhood; and

33 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, Mrs. Brenda Ann Smith Clay will long
34 be remembered for her love of family and friendship, and this loyal educator, public servant,
35 and friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing her.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Brenda Ann Smith
38 Clay and express their deepest and most sincere regret at her passing.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mrs. Brenda
41 Ann Smith Clay.