

House Resolution 1207

By: Representatives Mayo of the 84th, Stephenson of the 90th, Mosby of the 83rd, Dawkins-Haigler of the 91st, and Bennett of the 94th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Ms. Rochelle Callender on her accomplishments within the
- 2 DeKalb County community; and for other purposes.

- 3 WHEREAS, Ms. Rochelle Callender was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, and was placed in the
- 4 foster care system at the age of two; she experienced four foster homes until the age of 18;
- 5 and

- 6 WHEREAS, she and her family moved to the Decatur area 24 years ago in response to a
- 7 career advancement opportunity with the IBM Corporation; and

- 8 WHEREAS, dedicated to the quality of life of DeKalb County residents, Ms. Callender
- 9 initiated and spearheaded a broad team of subdivision leaders and community residents to
- 10 collaborate with the county commissioners and a former CEO, resulting in \$1 million for the
- 11 funding of a new park on Flat Shoals Parkway; the funding also included enhancements to
- 12 the Dottie Bridges Tennis Center; and

- 13 WHEREAS, she launched a "Friends of the Park" group in 2012, a volunteer group of
- 14 residents committed to safety, beautification, and events; and

- 15 WHEREAS, Ms. Callender was appointed to the Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs
- 16 Citizen Advisory Board where she had actively served for three years; and

- 17 WHEREAS, she is currently responsible for the transformation of global pipeline and
- 18 reporting at IBM Corporation, and she recently celebrated her thirty-eighth year with the
- 19 company in September; and

- 20 WHEREAS, Ms. Callender has received many awards through her years at IBM, including
- 21 "Best of IBM" which recognizes employees for their extraordinary accomplishments; and

22 WHEREAS, her other community responsibilities include being president of the Hartwood
23 Estates Homeowner's Association, founding member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry at the
24 Spirit and Truth Sanctuary, and member of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women
25 where she focuses on the "Legacy Program"; and

26 WHEREAS, Ms. Rochelle Callender had the challenge and pleasure to raise six children, two
27 birth children, three stepchildren, and one foster daughter, and is a proud grandmother to two
28 boys.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body recognize and commend Ms. Rochelle Callender on her
31 commitment to live, work, and serve in DeKalb County and her efforts in raising the quality
32 of life for all community residents.

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 Ms. Rochelle Callender.