

House Resolution 1278

By: Representatives Brooks of the 55th, Thomas of the 56th, Abrams of the 89th, Smyre of the 135th, Williams of the 168th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Evelyn Gibson Lowery; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Mrs. Evelyn Gibson Lowery was born in Wichita, Kansas, to Reverend Doctor
3 Harry B. Gibson and Mrs. Evelyn Gibson; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Lowery's life was shaped by the social activist foundation she received
5 from her parents, and she grew up in a home where the Methodist church and civic and
6 community organizations were a normal walk of life for her; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Mrs. Lowery attended Youngstown University and Clark College, where she
8 pledged Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Mrs. Lowery planned to become a social worker after graduation; however, she
10 was introduced to Dr. Joseph Echols Lowery, and the two married on May 5, 1946; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Mrs. Lowery's "social work" became her ministry as a pastor's wife as Dr.
12 Lowery pastored Warren Methodist in Mobile, Alabama, and Central United Methodist for
13 18 years and Cascade United Methodist for six years in Atlanta, Georgia; and
- 14 WHEREAS, in 1979, Mrs. Lowery's passion about issues impacting women and children
15 caused her to summon a group of women to her home, and from this gathering the Women's
16 Organization Movement for Equality Now (SCLC/W.O.M.E.N.) was born;
17 SCLC/W.O.M.E.N., now a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is a world-wide organization
18 that includes members from different denominations and accepts girls and women of any
19 race, nationality, or culture;
- 20 WHEREAS, Mrs. Lowery served as the National Convener from its inception until her death;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, her lamp did not go out by night; Mrs. Lowery received more than 56 honors
23 and awards for her outstanding and unfailing service to humankind.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
25 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mrs. Evelyn Gibson
26 Lowery and express their deepest and most sincere regret at her passing.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
28 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mrs. Evelyn
29 Gibson Lowery.