

House Resolution 1735

By: Representatives Beasley-Teague of the 65th, Dawkins-Haigler of the 91st, Scott of the 76th, and Anderson of the 92nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Barbara Pace Hunt; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Barbara Pace Hunt was born in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, and excelled
3 academically in high school; at the age of 15 she moved to Georgia and attended Clark
4 College; and

5 WHEREAS, after her freshman year, she applied for admission to Georgia State College and
6 was denied entry for a lack of alumni recommendations; and

7 WHEREAS, on January 9, 1959, Mrs. Hunt was named as the plaintiff in a class action
8 lawsuit filed against the State of Georgia and the Board of Regents; attorney Thurgood
9 Marshall contended that requiring alumni recommendations imposed a discriminatory burden
10 on the minority applicants; and

11 WHEREAS, her courageous stand for justice received a ruling by Judge Sloan, stating that
12 the school's admission policies were unconstitutional because it would be difficult, if not
13 impossible, for a black applicant to obtain recommendations from white alumni; and

14 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hunt's case paved the way for the 1961 ruling that resulted in the
15 admission of Hamilton Holmes and the desegregation of Georgia's institutions of higher
16 education; and

17 WHEREAS, her courage resulted in Georgia State University having one of the highest
18 graduation rates for African Americans in the United States of America; and

19 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hunt went on to receive her bachelor's degree from the University of
20 Texas, Dallas, a master's degree from the University of Texas, Arlington, and a second
21 master's degree from North Texas State University, Denton; and

22 WHEREAS, this mother of two became the managing editor for La Vida News "The Black
23 Voice" in Fort Worth, Texas, and remained steadfast in her efforts to blaze trails by
24 becoming a sociologist and an urban planner; and

25 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hunt has had a distinguished career in community affairs, serving as the
26 community affairs manager for the City of Fort Worth and as a manager with the Dallas
27 County Department of Human Resources; and

28 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hunt, who once served as secretary to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in his
29 work for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, received the "Wall of Tolerance"
30 award from Rosa Parks in 2003; and

31 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
32 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body recognize and commend Barbara Pace Hunt for her long and
35 distinguished career in community affairs and for her dedication to improving the lives of
36 minorities and women.

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 Barbara Pace Hunt.