

Senate Resolution 1256

By: Senators Tate of the 38th, Butler of the 55th, Fort of the 39th, Orrock of the 36th and Davenport of the 44th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Lonnie C. King, Jr.; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Lonnie C. King, Jr., is a civil rights pioneer best known for his work in the  
3 1960s when, as a 23 year old Morehouse College student, he joined with fellow students  
4 from the six historically black colleges in Atlanta to form the Committee on Appeal for  
5 Human Rights (COAHR); and

6 WHEREAS, this Navy veteran, boxer, and starting fullback on the football team is a  
7 natural leader who was inspired to embrace the principles of nonviolence taught to him by  
8 Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

9 WHEREAS, Lonnie C. King, Jr., helped train thousands of students in nonviolent civil  
10 disobedience and organized a movement that was characterized by *LOOK Magazine* as  
11 the "Second Battle of Atlanta," where they held sit-ins, boycotts, and marches to end  
12 racial segregation and begin the change towards racial equality in America; and

13 WHEREAS, as founding chairman of COAHR, Lonnie C. King, Jr., helped motivate and  
14 mobilize young people to challenge segregation and discrimination and become involved  
15 in a movement that would awaken a generation and ultimately change the world; and

16 WHEREAS, Lonnie C. King, Jr., is also passionate about education, teaching on every  
17 level from elementary to collegiate and spearheading the effort to open a new school for  
18 disadvantaged Atlanta youth; and

19 WHEREAS, having come from humble beginnings, Mr. King still hopes to inspire and  
20 encourage young people to believe in themselves and their ability to be successful and  
21 achieve high and honorable goals; and

22 WHEREAS, Lonnie C. King, Jr., has served as president of the Atlanta chapter of the  
23 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and continues his  
24 involvement in civil rights by actively working to commemorate the movement through  
25 oral history interviews and documentary videos for the purpose of training and educating  
26 a new generation of grassroots leaders to be inspired to mobilize a constituency in issues  
27 that still impact our lives today; and

28 WHEREAS, Lonnie C. King, Jr., is a distinguished Georgia citizen and dedicated public  
29 servant whose years of sacrifice and commitment as a civil rights advocate truly helped  
30 make him an American icon in his own time; and

31 WHEREAS, it is appropriately fitting and proper that this body recognize the nonviolent  
32 actions, determination, and extraordinary accomplishments of Lonnie C. King, Jr., as well  
33 as express its appreciation for his life's work in the pursuit of freedom and justice for  
34 others.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this  
36 body commend Lonnie C. King, Jr., for his contributions to our history, the State of  
37 Georgia, and this nation.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
39 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Lonnie C. King, Jr.