

House Resolution 1997

By: Representatives Beasley-Teague of the 65th, Glanton of the 75th, Anderson of the 92nd, Brooks of the 55th, Smyre of the 135th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Grace Towns Hamilton and her work with the Urban League of Greater
2 Atlanta; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Grace Towns Hamilton was the first African American woman elected to the
4 Georgia General Assembly, serving from 1966 until 1984; and

5 WHEREAS, she was known as a highly effective legislator, advocating for the rights of the
6 disadvantaged and underserved and promoting interracial cooperation as the key to racial
7 unity; and

8 WHEREAS, from 1943 to 1960, Grace Hamilton served as executive director of the Atlanta
9 Urban League, which is now the Urban League of Greater Atlanta; and

10 WHEREAS, a former psychology professor and the first woman to head the Atlanta Urban
11 League, she worked tirelessly to get equal access to education, health care, housing, and
12 voting rights for people of color; and

13 WHEREAS, Grace Hamilton also established the Atlanta Urban League Guild, which
14 continues as an auxiliary of the Urban League of Greater Atlanta; and

15 WHEREAS, celebrating 65 years of service, the Guild contributes hundreds of volunteer
16 hours annually and raises funds for programs that help empower local communities; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1964, she co-founded the biracial Partners for Progress to help the
18 government and private sector comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and was advisor to
19 the United States Civil Rights Commission from 1985 to 1987; and

20 WHEREAS, Grace Hamilton was born in 1907 and died in 1992, leaving a legacy of devoted
21 community service, compassion, and respect for all humanity; and

22 WHEREAS, because of her dedicated and passionate service to the State of Georgia, Grace
23 Hamilton improved the lives of countless citizens, and it is only fitting and proper that her
24 service be recognized.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
26 the members of this body commend Grace Towns Hamilton and her work with the Urban
27 League of Greater Atlanta.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
29 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Urban League of Greater
30 Atlanta.