

House Resolution 54

By: Representatives Brooks of the 55th and Thomas of the 56th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Dr. Eugene Edgar Thomas; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
3 with the passing of Dr. Eugene Edgar Thomas on December 8, 2014; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas was born on May 14, 1928, in Atlanta, Georgia, a beloved son of
5 Edgar Thomas and Sophia Lyman Thomas; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1946, where he was
7 an honor student and a basketball star, and received an academic and sports scholarship to
8 the Tuskegee Institute; and
- 9 WHEREAS, he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Physical Education in
10 1950, then later studied at Atlanta University and Georgia State College; and
- 11 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
12 States Army, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans during the Korean
13 Conflict, where he served for three years as a Second Lieutenant; and
- 14 WHEREAS, in 1953, he was appointed Assistant Boys Work Director by the Butler Street
15 YMCA, and, in 1955, he entered the teaching profession, where he served the Atlanta Public
16 School system for 31 years; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas received many awards and honors throughout his career, including
18 being named Teacher of the Year twice, being selected Star Teacher by a former student in
19 1969, and being honored by WXIA with "The Community Service Award for Rendering
20 Outstanding Service to Youth" in the city of Atlanta in 1978; and

21 WHEREAS, he served on the staff of the George Washington Carver Boys and Girls Club
22 and was appointed Unit Director of the Salvation Army Bellwood Boys and Girls Club, a
23 position in which he served for 26 years; and

24 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Dr. Eugene Thomas was an active member of
25 Saint Paul of the Cross Catholic Church for more than 50 years; and

26 WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas was united in love and marriage to Morriscene Thomas, and was
27 blessed with five lovely daughters, Eleanor Grier, Senator Donzella James, Lujuana Thomas,
28 Mamie Thomas, and Lisa Thomas; eight wonderful grandchildren; and 12 incredible
29 great-grandchildren; and

30 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern
31 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his
32 family and friends were admired by others; and

33 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Dr. Eugene Edgar Thomas will long be
34 remembered for his love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father, and friend
35 will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Dr. Eugene Edgar Thomas
38 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
41 family of Dr. Eugene Edgar Thomas.