

House Resolution 64

By: Representative Brooks of the 55th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of former United States Senator Edward W. Brooke; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of an outstanding American with the
4 passing of Edward W. Brooke on January 3, 2015, in Coral Gables, Florida; and

5 WHEREAS, Senator Brooke was the first African American in United States history to win
6 popular election to the United States Senate when he was elected in 1966; and

7 WHEREAS, elected as a Republican from Massachusetts, Senator Brooke was the first
8 African American to sit in the United States Senate since Reconstruction, and he is one of
9 only nine African Americans to ever serve in that branch; and

10 WHEREAS, in October, 2009, Senator Brooke was honored with the Congressional Gold
11 Medal, the highest award Congress offers civilians; and

12 WHEREAS, during his time in the United States Senate, he worked to pass the Equal Rights
13 Amendment and also lent his name to the Brooke Amendment to the Federal Housing Act,
14 which limited the amount a family must pay for rent in public housing to 25 percent of its
15 income; and

16 WHEREAS, he served 12 years in total in the United States Senate, and, during that time,
17 he was one of Massachusetts' most popular political figures; and

18 WHEREAS, Senator Brooke was pleased to see an African American elected President of
19 the United States during his lifetime.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of former United States
22 Senator Edward W. Brooke and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
24 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
25 family of former Senator Edward W. Brooke.