

## House Resolution 699

By: Representatives Dukes of the 154<sup>th</sup>, Ealum of the 153<sup>rd</sup>, Williams of the 87<sup>th</sup>, Jackson of the 128<sup>th</sup>, Smyre of the 135<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Gladys Ward Sapp; 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 Gladys Ward Sapp on March 2, 2015; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Gladys Ward Sapp was born on June 7, 1926, in Gum Pond, Mitchell County,  
5 Georgia, a beloved daughter of Richmond and Viola Bell Ward; and
- 6 WHEREAS, an accomplished musician, she played alongside Ray Charles as their parents  
7 collected turpentine in Gum Pond while they were children, wrote her Madison High School  
8 Class Song, and composed the Albany State University Alma Mater; and
- 9 WHEREAS, she earned her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Albany State  
10 University and her Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education from New York University  
11 before teaching school for more than 35 years in Mitchell and Decatur Counties in Georgia;  
12 and
- 13 WHEREAS, Gladys Ward Sapp was united in love and marriage to John A. McCullough,  
14 and was blessed with four remarkable children, Rycha, Janice, John, Jr., and Linda; and
- 15 WHEREAS, she married Hope Sapp in 1977 and helped parent Lillian, Vahishtean, and  
16 Lamar, and she was blessed with 18 amazing grandchildren and 31 exceptional  
17 great-grandchildren; and
- 18 WHEREAS, she gave inspiration to many through her high ideals, morals, and deep concern  
19 for her fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding she demonstrated to  
20 her family and friends were admired by others; and

21 WHEREAS, she was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
22 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example she made of her life,  
23 she made this world a better place in which to live; and

24 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, Gladys Ward Sapp will long be  
25 remembered for her love of family and friendship, and this loyal wife, mother, and friend will  
26 be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing her.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
28 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Gladys Ward Sapp and  
29 express their deepest and most sincere regret at her passing.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
31 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
32 family of Gladys Ward Sapp.