

House Resolution 1361

By: Representatives Mabra of the 63rd and Sims of the 123rd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Deacon Robert Henderson; 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 Deacon Robert Henderson on January 27, 2016; and
- 4 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
5 States Navy, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans during the Korean
6 War and World War II; and
- 7 WHEREAS, he was the first black man to work at Southern Bell, now AT&T, and installed
8 the first 911 emergency response systems in Augusta, Georgia; and
- 9 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Deacon Henderson was an active member of
10 the First New Hope Baptist Church, where he served as chairman of the Deacon Board for
11 more than 40 years; and
- 12 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife of 56 years, Bertha Lee Bass, and
13 showed his tender devotion by personally providing total care for her for 11 years after she
14 suffered a stroke, giving her physical therapy, planning and preparing her meals, taking her
15 to church every Sunday, and rolling and styling her hair; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Deacon Henderson was blessed with four remarkable children, Audrey, Carl,
17 F.C., and Robin; and
- 18 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern
19 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his
20 family and friends were admired by others; and

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

24 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, he will long be remembered for his love
25 of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father, and friend will be missed by all who
26 had the great fortune of knowing him.

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 Deacon Robert Henderson
29 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his 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 Deacon Robert Henderson.