

## House Resolution 1697

By: Representatives Smith of the 70<sup>th</sup>, Trammell of the 132<sup>nd</sup>, Ramsey of the 72<sup>nd</sup>, and Stover of the 71<sup>st</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Donald W. Nixon; 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 Donald W. Nixon on February 8, 2016; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mr. Nixon has served as the fine arts director of the Coweta County School  
5 System's arts center since the center's opening in 2003, where he helped plan and oversee all  
6 details of building and completing the 1,000-seat performing space for theatrical and music  
7 performance, arts education, and all aspects of visual arts, cultivating a house of excellence  
8 that was an extension of the classroom no matter the age of the student; and
- 9 WHEREAS, he brought world class productions, including the Martha Graham Dance  
10 Company, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Vienna Boys' Choir, Preservation Hall Jazz  
11 Band, and "The President's Own" Marine Corps Band, to the center; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Mr. Nixon served as a member of the Coweta Community Foundation Board  
13 and the Newnan Piedmont Hospital Community Advisory Board and as a deacon at Central  
14 Baptist Church; and
- 15 WHEREAS, he previously served as an associate pastor and minister of worship and the arts  
16 at Willow Meadows Baptist Church in Texas, and he was a visual artist and guest lecturer  
17 at the Virginia Highlands Festival, the Houston Independent School District, the Baylor  
18 Institute of Religion, and Houston Baptist University; and
- 19 WHEREAS, in 1996, Mr. Nixon was named a distinguished floral designer by *Town and*  
20 *Country Magazine*, and in 1997, Mr. Nixon received the Christopher Award from the Strauss  
21 Theatre and the Distinguished Honor for Civic and Community Contributions from the  
22 Garden Clubs of America; and

23 WHEREAS, he earned his bachelor's degree in music from Carson-Newman College and his  
24 master's degree in music from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; and

25 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Cathe, and was blessed with one  
26 remarkable daughter, Jordan; and

27 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, he will long be remembered for his love  
28 of family and friendship and will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
30 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Donald W. Nixon and  
31 express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
33 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
34 family of Donald W. Nixon.