

House Resolution 636

By: Representatives Bennett of the 94th and Dickerson of the 113th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Josephine E. Handy-Sewell, a 2017 Yellow Rose Nominee for House
2 District 94; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Josephine E. Handy-Sewell has long been recognized by the citizens of this
4 state for the vital role that she has played in leadership and her deep personal commitment
5 to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, she has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of her time,
7 talents, and energy toward the betterment of her community and state; and

8 WHEREAS, after graduating from Tuskegee (Institute) University, she began a successful
9 35 year retail career with Sears, and upon her return to Georgia, she became the first African
10 American to be the store manager of a newly constructed Sears store; and

11 WHEREAS, she is most proud to have served as a corporate liaison for Sears to the Martin
12 Luther King Center for several of the "Statute of Greatness" Dinners, led the "Toys for
13 Totes" campaign in partnership with the United States Marine Corps, and spearheaded major
14 community food drives; and

15 WHEREAS, Josephine has a long and consistent record of community service as further
16 evidenced by her efforts to raise money for historical black colleges, her dedicated political
17 involvement, and her service on the Home Owner's Association Board of the Mountain Oaks
18 Subdivision; and

19 WHEREAS, a woman of deep and abiding faith, she has been a member of Beulah
20 Missionary Baptist Church since 1980 and serves as the president of the Maggie Howard
21 Missionary Circle and as the chairperson for the Social Justice Mission of Beulah in order
22 to address the physical, psychological, intellectual, and spiritual needs of others in her
23 congregation and community; and

24 WHEREAS, she is united in love and marriage to John T. Sewell, a retired Navy Veteran,
25 and is blessed with one remarkable son, Lanier; and

26 WHEREAS, Josephine's vision and unyielding commitment to her community and state have
27 set the standard for community service, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that the
28 outstanding accomplishments of this remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately
29 recognized.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body recognize Josephine E. Handy-Sewell for her efficient, effective,
32 unselfish, and dedicated service to the State of Georgia and extend the most sincere best
33 wishes for continued health and happiness.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
35 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
36 Josephine E. Handy-Sewell.