

House Resolution 713

By: Representatives Thomas of the 56th, Alexander of the 66th, Thomas of the 39th, Stovall of the 74th, and Dukes of the 154th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 24th and 25th, 2017, as the 14th Annual Walter Rodney Symposium;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Walter Rodney Foundation, a nonprofit, was founded by the Rodney family
4 in 2006 and it seeks to improve lives and build capacity through scholarship and programs,
5 which promote education, health, and human development from a social justice perspective;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, the foundation is committed to sharing the life and works of Walter Rodney
8 with students, scholars, and community activists around the world; and

9 WHEREAS, Walter Rodney is recognized as one of the Caribbean's most brilliant minds
10 whose scholarly works and political activism during his lifetime engendered a new political
11 consciousness; and

12 WHEREAS, since 2004, the Annual Walter Rodney Symposium has been held in Atlanta,
13 Georgia, and its goal is to bring together scholars, researchers, activists, students, and the
14 community to discuss contemporary issues from a Rodney perspective; and

15 WHEREAS, the first day of the symposium will address the issues of racism, discrimination,
16 injustice, and inequity within the context of the 1980 assassination of Walter Rodney as well
17 as the societal structure and political environment of Guyana at that time, including the
18 Jonestown Massacre, and overarching the context of international human rights; and

19 WHEREAS, the second day of the symposium will address social injustices that are faced
20 by society today and how to use education, politics, civic engagement, and radical pedagogy
21 as strategies to effect change and will focus on the International Decade for People of
22 African Descent.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
24 the members of this body recognize March 24th and 25th, 2017, as the 14th Annual Walter
25 Rodney Symposium.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
27 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
28 Walter Rodney Foundation.