

Senate Resolution 841

By: Senators Jackson of the 2nd, Harbison of the 15th and Jones of the 10th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Dr. Lester B. Johnson, Jr.; 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 Dr. Lester B. Johnson, Jr., on Wednesday, November 29, 2017; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson was a second generation Savannahian, the beloved son of Lester
5 and Lucille Johnson; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he was the first African American youth to attain the rank of Eagle Scout in
7 Savannah's history; and
- 8 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Dr. Johnson was an active member of St.
9 Benedict the Moor Catholic Church, where he served as president of the Holy Name Society
10 and was part of the Eucharistic ministry; and
- 11 WHEREAS, he was a graduate of Alfred E. Beach High School, where he served as Class
12 President in 1944; earned his bachelor's degree in architectural engineering from Hampton
13 University in 1949; received his master's degree in industrial education from South Carolina
14 State University in 1966; and earned his doctorate degree in vocational education from the
15 University of Missouri-Columbia in 1973; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Dr. Johnson's teaching career spanned 43 years, including a 20 year tenure at
17 Alfred E. Beach High School as an industrial arts and mathematics teacher, where he served
18 as the school's photographer, yearbook advisor, varsity club advisor, and athletic statistician,
19 in addition to being named Beach High School Teacher of the Year in 1961; and
- 20 WHEREAS, while teaching at Savannah State University, Dr. Johnson was selected for the
21 University's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1991, the year before he retired as professor
22 and chairman emeritus of engineering technology; and

23 WHEREAS, he dedicated his time, talents, and energy toward the betterment of his
24 community and state as evidenced by his involvement with many organizations, such as the
25 NAACP, the Georgia Historical Society, and the LCRS Community Association; and

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

29 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Dr. Lester B. Johnson, Jr., will long be
30 remembered for his love of family and friendship and will be missed by all who had the great
31 fortune of knowing him.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 join in honoring the life and memory of Dr. Lester B. Johnson, Jr., and express their deepest
34 and most sincere regret at his passing.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of
37 Dr. Lester B. Johnson, Jr.