

House Resolution 1353

By: Representatives Holly of the 111th, Hutchinson of the 107th, Douglas of the 78th, Jasperse of the 11th, and Morris of the 156th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Dr. Esco Hall Jr., the first black veterinarian to graduate
2 from the University of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
4 with the passing of Dr. Esco Hall Jr. on November 25, 2019; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Esco Hall Jr. was born in Wheeler County, Georgia, on February 3, 1948,
6 and graduated from high school as the valedictorian of his class; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Hall went on to attend Fort Valley State College, where he became a
8 member of several organizations including Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, where he served as
9 president of the Alpha Pi Chapter; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Hall was admitted into the University of Georgia College of Veterinary
11 Medicine, where he graduated in the top 10 of his class and received a Doctor of Veterinary
12 Medicine degree; and

13 WHEREAS, after completing his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 1973, he moved
14 to Appling County, Baxley, Georgia, and purchased the Appling Animal Hospital, becoming
15 the only black veterinarian to have a private practice south of Atlanta, Georgia; and

16 WHEREAS, he cared for animals for more than 39 years and was dearly beloved by his
17 patients and their caregivers, who felt like members of Dr. Esco's family; and

18 WHEREAS, he served on the Baxley City Council for more than 29 years and held the
19 position of Mayor Pro Tem; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Hall owned and operated Baxley Funeral Home, which has been in service
21 for 21 years; and

22 WHEREAS, because of his great service to his community, Dr. Hall was frequently
23 recognized with numerous awards and honors; and

24 WHEREAS, his dedication to civic engagement was evident through his involvement with
25 the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (N.A.A.C.P.) where he was
26 a life member; as a founding member of the Progressive Club of Appling County in 1977;
27 as a member of 100 Black Men of Southeast, Georgia, and the Appling County Development
28 Authority; as a board member of the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Resource Committee; and
29 as a member of Concerted Services, Incorporated, National League of Cities, Georgia
30 Municipal Association, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association, South Georgia Veterinary
31 Medical Association, and Fort Valley State University Board of Veterinary Science; and

32 WHEREAS, with all of his success, he was most proud of his family, including his wife,
33 Mrs. Ora Solomon-Hall; three daughters, Tanya, Regina, and Cassandra; three grandsons;
34 and five granddaughters; and

35 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Dr. Hall will long be remembered for his
36 love of family, friendship, and community and is missed by all who had the great fortune of
37 knowing him.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
39 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Dr. Esco Hall Jr. and
40 express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
42 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
43 family of Dr. Esco Hall Jr.