

## House Resolution 160

By: Representatives Howard of the 124<sup>th</sup>, Bentley of the 139<sup>th</sup>, Nelson of the 125<sup>th</sup>, Prince of the 127<sup>th</sup>, and Jackson of the 128<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Willie Mays; 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 Willie Mays; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Willie Mays was a beloved son of William and Carrie Mays; and
- 5 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith who witnessed Christ through word and deed,  
6 Willie was an active member of Trinity Christian Methodist Episcopal Church; and
- 7 WHEREAS, dedicated to upholding his family business and traditions, he was a third  
8 generation mortician and owner of the W. H. Mays Mortuary, which was founded by his  
9 grandfather in 1922; and
- 10 WHEREAS, he devoted his time, talents, and energy to his profession in mortuary services,  
11 as further evidenced by his work with the Georgia Funeral Service Practitioner's Association  
12 Inc., the National Funeral Directors and Morticians Association, the Epsilon Nu Delta  
13 Mortuary Fraternity, and others; and

14 WHEREAS, a committed and cherished member of the community, he served with numerous  
15 boards and associations throughout local and state government during his career, including  
16 the Richmond County Board of County Commissioners, the Georgia State Board of  
17 Cosmetology, the Georgia Rail Passenger Authority, and the National Association of Black  
18 County Officials; and

19 WHEREAS, due to his service as commissioner of an at-large super district in  
20 Augusta-Richmond County and as interim mayor of the City of Augusta, Georgia, Willie is  
21 recognized as the only person in history to have served in all three forms of local  
22 government; and

23 WHEREAS, he was a deserving recipient of countless civic and community awards as a  
24 result of his dedication to excellence, including the 2014 Georgia Funeral Service  
25 Practitioners Association's Mortician of the Year Award, the 2006 Antioch Community  
26 Development County-Wide Impact Award, and the 1998 Metro Courier Community Pillar  
27 Award; and

28 WHEREAS, Willie gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep  
29 concern for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he  
30 demonstrated to his family and friends were admired by others; and

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

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

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

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
41 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
42 family of Willie Mays.