

House Resolution 440

By: Representative Cheokas of the 138th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and achievements of Viola Hart-Felton; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Viola Hart-Felton, born April 11, 1870, was the Royal Grand Matron of the
3 Prince Hall Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, Jurisdiction of Georgia, for 32
4 years; and

5 WHEREAS, Viola Hart-Felton's commitment to public service is evident through her
6 extensive volunteer work to maintain and preserve the well-being of children and assist
7 communities with sustainable practices; and

8 WHEREAS, Viola Hart-Felton was instrumental in fostering collaboration to help young
9 ladies to study and pursue careers in nursing. She encouraged the development of creative
10 new opportunities and activities to attract and engage members and non-members alike,
11 fulfilling the oath taken when she became a member of the Order of the Eastern Star; and

12 WHEREAS, Viola Hart-Felton reached out to children by helping to build the Masonic
13 Orphans Home in Americus, Georgia, during a period of time when there were many
14 orphaned children; and

15 WHEREAS, she was affectionately known as "Sister Hart" until her death on March 31,
16 1933, and earned the epitaph "Lover of Humanity"; and

17 WHEREAS, the first memorial celebration service was conducted in commemoration of the
18 great works for the 2nd Grand Worthy Matron for the Jurisdiction of Georgia on Saturday,
19 September 9, 2000, with Grand Worthy Matron Belle S. Clark and Worthy Matron Mary F.
20 Surry presiding. The 20th year celebration was impacted by the global COVID-19 pandemic
21 and rescheduled for Saturday, March 27, 2021, with Grand Worthy Matron Deaidra P.
22 Wilson and Worthy Matron Relonda Mutcherson presiding; and

23 WHEREAS, the life and works of Viola Hart-Felton continue to serve as bright and shining
24 beacons of light for the officers of the Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star,
25 Jurisdiction of Georgia, and her chapter namesakes, including Worthy Matron Relonda
26 Mutcherson, Worthy Patron Jabulani Tarver, Associate Matron Tamicka Jones, Associate
27 Patron Anthony Mace, Past Matron Mary Surry, Worshipful Master Tariq Crump, and others.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
29 the members of this body honor the life and outstanding achievements of Viola Hart-Felton
30 and express their appreciation for the excellent service she rendered as an outstanding citizen
31 of the State of Georgia.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
34 family of Viola Hart-Felton.