

House Resolution 1180

By: Representatives Bruce of the 61st and Jackson of the 68th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Jean Carn; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Jean Carn was born Sarah Jean Perkins in Columbus, Georgia, on March 15,
3 1947, and started performing at the age of four in her church choir and also began piano
4 lessons around this time; and

5 WHEREAS, she graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta, and while
6 attending Morris Brown College on a music scholarship learned to play several other
7 instruments and performed in every genre from musical theater to grand opera; and

8 WHEREAS, an exceptionally graceful jazz and R&B vocalist with a five-octave range, she
9 had her first major hit with the single *Valentine Love* in 1975 followed by such other popular
10 singles as *Was That All It Was*, *Free Love*, and *Don't Let It Go To Your Head*; and

11 WHEREAS, her career highlights include performing with the group Earth, Wind & Fire, on
12 its first two albums and the Duke Ellington Orchestra prior to the bandleader's death; and

13 WHEREAS, her solo career began in 1976 when she signed as an artist to Philadelphia
14 International, where she made her debut with a self-titled album featuring smooth soul and

15 elegant disco which hit Billboard's R&B and jazz charts and made the Billboard 20 and
16 continues to this day as she continues to record and tour, particularly in the U.K.; and

17 WHEREAS, in addition to performing, she has also been a valued coach, assisting the likes
18 of Michael Henderson, Phyllis Hyman, and Michael Jackson; and

19 WHEREAS, her discography is too extensive to list in detail but resulted in her being
20 honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award presented by the National R&B Music Society
21 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 2014 and having her life featured on the documentary TV
22 One series, *Unsung*; and

23 WHEREAS, beyond her successful singing career, she is also the proud mother of three
24 children; and

25 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
26 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
28 the members of this body recognize and commend Jean Carn and honor her for her
29 impressive body of work.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
31 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Jean
32 Carn.