

House Bill 303

By: Representatives Gilliard of the 162nd, Mitchell of the 88th, Lupton of the 83rd, Jackson of the 68th, and Willis of the 55th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 3 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state
2 flag, seal, and other symbols, so as to provide for placement of a monument to honor the
3 Original 33; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
4 laws; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, in 1868, 33 African Americans, the Original 33, were elected to the General
6 Assembly of Georgia: Senators Aaron Alpeoria Bradley, Tunis Campbell, Sr., and George
7 Wallace, and Representatives Thomas M. Allen, Eli Barnes, Thomas Beard, Edwin Belcher,
8 Tunis Campbell, Jr., Malcolm Claiborn, George H. Clower, Abram Colby, John T. Costin,
9 Madison Davis, Monday Floyd, F. H. Fyall, Samuel Gardner, William A. Golden, William
10 Guilford, William Henry Harrison, Ulysses L. Houston, Philip Joiner, George Linder, Robert
11 Lumpkin, Romulus Moore, Peter O'Neal, James Ward Porter, Alfred Richardson, James M.
12 Simms, Abraham Smith, Alexander Stone, Henry McNeal Turner, John Warren, and Samuel
13 Williams; and

14 WHEREAS, these men were some of the first Black state legislators in the United States; and

15 WHEREAS, in September of 1868, the Original 33 were expelled from the General
16 Assembly of Georgia; and

17 WHEREAS, it is only fitting that the Original 33 be honored and recognized for their
18 pioneering work and suffering for attempting to integrate the General Assembly of Georgia.

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

20 **SECTION 1.**

21 Chapter 3 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state flag, seal,
22 and other symbols, is amended by adding a new article to read as follows:

23 "ARTICLE 8

24 50-3-130.

25 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the 'Original 33 Memorial Act.'

26 50-3-131.

27 (a) There shall be placed upon the capitol grounds of the state capitol building or in
28 another prominent place a monument in honor of the Original 33, the Black legislators
29 expelled from the General Assembly following the end of Reconstruction, subject to the
30 availability of private funds for such purpose.

31 (b) Unless public safety concerns warrant postponement, such monument shall be procured
32 and placed as soon as practicable."

33 **SECTION 2.**

34 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.