

House Resolution 841

By: Representatives Bell of the 75th, Holly of the 116th, Berry of the 56th, McQueen of the 61st, and Willis of the 55th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Charles Black for his outstanding contributions to civil rights,
2 education, and community service; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Charles Black, a native of Miami, Florida, has dedicated his life to the pursuit
4 of justice, equality, and civic engagement, leaving an indelible mark on the State of Georgia
5 and the nation; and

6 WHEREAS, he is an esteemed alumnus of Morehouse College, where he distinguished
7 himself as a scholar and leader, serving as a member of the varsity debate team, editor of the
8 college newspaper, president of the senior class, and chairman of The 1960's Atlanta Student
9 Movement; and

10 WHEREAS, Charles Black played a pivotal role in the Civil Rights Movement, being a
11 signer and co-author of the *Appeal for Human Rights*, a foundational document advocating
12 for the desegregation of public spaces and the advancement of human rights; and

13 WHEREAS, he was among only eight students privileged to study under Dr. Martin Luther
14 King Jr., further cementing his commitment to nonviolent activism and the fight for racial
15 justice; and

16 WHEREAS, Charles Black is a 1971 alumnus of Leadership Atlanta and has served as
17 chairman of the Boards of Illien Adoptions International, Freedom University, and The
18 Foundation for Our Children, demonstrating his unwavering commitment to social justice
19 and education; and

20 WHEREAS, he has held numerous leadership roles, including past chairman of the Board
21 of Hammonds House Museum, past editor of *The Atlanta Inquirer Newspaper Inc.*, and past
22 CEO of the national consulting firm Frontiers Unlimited Inc., which he co-founded alongside
23 civil rights icons John Lewis, Julian Bond, and Lonnie King Jr.; and

24 WHEREAS, his influence extends into the political and civic arenas, having served as an
25 advisor and manager of numerous campaigns, mentoring younger generations of community
26 and political activists on matters of civil and human rights; and

27 WHEREAS, beyond his activism, Charles Black is a veteran actor of stage, screen, and
28 television, starring in a series of faith-based films with training guides used in over 3,000
29 churches nationwide, further impacting communities through the arts; and

30 WHEREAS, in recognition of his lifelong dedication to community service and civil rights,
31 Charles Black was awarded the Presidential Medal of Honor by President Barack Obama,
32 a testament to his enduring impact on the nation; and

33 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this body recognize the exceptional
34 achievements of Charles Black and extend gratitude for his contributions to the State of
35 Georgia and the broader global community.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 the members of this body recognize and commend Charles Black for his outstanding
38 contributions to civil rights, education, and community service as well as express their
39 sincere appreciation for his lasting influence.

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
42 Charles Black.