

House Resolution 902

By: Representatives Bell of the 75th, Cannon of the 58th, Willis of the 55th, Holland of the 54th, and Sharper of the 177th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring Michelle Taylor Willis; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Michelle Taylor Willis is a distinguished graduate of the University of Florida
3 and an award-winning media executive, author, speaker, actress, and master strategist whose
4 leadership and innovation have shaped the media landscape; and
- 5 WHEREAS, she is the Founder and CEO of Gagnant Media and the Publisher of *SoFu*
6 *Lifestyle Magazine*, a platform that has been awarded "Publication of the Year" three times
7 and has received numerous accolades for its contributions to the Atlanta community; and
- 8 WHEREAS, her achievements have earned her recognition as one of the "Top 25 Most
9 Powerful Women in Atlanta," "Top 25 Most Extraordinary Atlantans," and placement on
10 multiple "Top 100" lists in Georgia, cementing her reputation as a transformative leader; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Michelle's book, *Raising Significance: A Guide to Well-Rounded, Independent,*
12 *and Confident Kids*, gained national attention and was featured on *The Tamron Hall Show*,
13 furthering her impact in education and parenting; and

14 WHEREAS, she is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. and has tirelessly
15 worked to uplift and promote the South Fulton community, even coining and trademarking
16 the term SoFu®, which represents the eight cities of South Fulton County; and

17 WHEREAS, in recognition of her dedication, she was honored with a proclamation declaring
18 February 18, 2021, as "Michelle Taylor Willis Day" in the City of South Fulton as well as
19 a resolution from the State of Georgia and a proclamation as an "Outstanding Georgia
20 Citizen" by Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger; and

21 WHEREAS, on November 18, 2021, Senator Lester Jackson and Lieutenant Governor Geoff
22 Duncan recognized her invaluable contributions by declaring "Michelle Taylor Willis Day"
23 at the Georgia State Capitol in acknowledgment of her work in business and community
24 development; and

25 WHEREAS, she has served in numerous leadership roles, including Vice Chair of the
26 Atlanta-Fulton Library Foundation Board, past Secretary for the Morris Brown College
27 Foundation, past President of the United Way Advisory Board South Fulton, and past
28 President of the Théâtre du Rêve Board of Directors, demonstrating a lifelong commitment
29 to service; and

30 WHEREAS, Michelle's talents extend beyond business and community leadership into the
31 arts, where she debuted as an actress in 2019 and was awarded the "Emerging Star for Best
32 Actress" award in 2023 from the Radio and Records Organization; and

33 WHEREAS, she has been a sought-after speaker, panelist, and moderator for national
34 organizations such as the National Urban League, Blacks in Tech, National Bar Association,

35 Multiple Sclerosis Association of America, United Way, and the University of North
36 Carolina, amplifying her voice and expertise on a national stage; and

37 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding achievements and lasting
38 contributions of Michelle Taylor Willis be appropriately recognized and celebrated.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
40 the members of this body honor Michelle Taylor Willis for her exemplary leadership,
41 entrepreneurial spirit, and unwavering commitment to the advancement of her community
42 and beyond as well as extend best wishes for continued success.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
44 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
45 Michelle Taylor Willis.