

## House Resolution 1330

By: Representatives Jones of the 60<sup>th</sup> and Buckner of the 137<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life, service, and historic legacy of John Raymond Terry, retired  
2 Superintendent of Talbot County and the first African American Chief Probate Judge of  
3 Talbot County, Georgia; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Georgia House of Representatives recognizes the importance of honoring  
5 individuals whose lives of service have strengthened their communities and advanced justice  
6 in the State of Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, John Raymond Terry faithfully served the citizens of Talbot County as  
8 Superintendent of Talbot County Schools, dedicating his professional life to public education  
9 and the development of future generations before his retirement; and

10 WHEREAS, on August 5, 2008, John Raymond Terry, following his retirement as  
11 Superintendent of Talbot County, won the Democratic nomination for Probate Judge of  
12 Talbot County, Georgia, marking a historic moment in the county's judicial history; and

13 WHEREAS, upon assuming office, John Raymond Terry became the first African American  
14 to serve as Chief Probate Judge of Talbot County, breaking longstanding racial barriers and  
15 establishing a legacy of progress, inclusion, and principled leadership; and

16 WHEREAS, during his tenure as Probate Judge, Judge Terry served with integrity, wisdom,  
17 and fairness, earning the trust and respect of the citizens of Talbot County while faithfully  
18 upholding the laws and Constitution of the State of Georgia; and

19 WHEREAS, the election and service of John Raymond Terry represented not only a personal  
20 achievement, but also a milestone in the civil, educational, and judicial history of Talbot  
21 County and the State of Georgia; and

22 WHEREAS, it is with profound sorrow that the members of the Georgia House of  
23 Representatives note the passing of John Raymond Terry, and extend their deepest sympathy  
24 to his family, friends, colleagues, and all those whose lives were enriched by his leadership  
25 and service; and

26 WHEREAS, the legacy of Judge Terry will endure through a life marked by devotion to  
27 education, justice, and public service, and by his historic role in advancing equal justice  
28 under the law.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
30 the members of this body honor and remember the life and legacy of John Raymond Terry,  
31 retired Superintendent of Talbot County and the first African American Chief Probate Judge  
32 of Talbot County, Georgia, and commend a life of exemplary public service and historic  
33 leadership.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
36 family of John Raymond Terry.