

## House Resolution 1290

By: Representatives Stephens of the 165<sup>th</sup>, Gordon of the 163<sup>rd</sup>, Hitchens of the 161<sup>st</sup>, Bryant of the 162<sup>nd</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Floyd Adams, Jr.; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
3 with the passing of Floyd Adams, Jr.; and
- 4 WHEREAS, in 1995, Floyd Adams, Jr., became the first African American elected to serve  
5 as mayor of Savannah; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he united the City of Savannah and ignored racial, economic, and social barriers  
7 during his decades of public service; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Floyd Adams, Jr., was the publisher of the *Savannah Herald*, a weekly  
9 newspaper that has covered issues important to the city's black community since its founding  
10 in 1945; and
- 11 WHEREAS, prior to serving as mayor, Floyd Adams, Jr., became First District alderman in  
12 1982 and went on to serve two terms; he was later elected as alderman at-large; and
- 13 WHEREAS, he served on the city council for more than 13 years before he won the office  
14 of mayor, which made Floyd Adams, Jr., the 63rd mayor of Georgia's oldest city; and
- 15 WHEREAS, he took office at a time when Savannah was in the national spotlight because  
16 of the yachting events for the 1996 Olympic Games; tourists also flocked to the city to visit  
17 the area described in John Berendt's nonfiction best-seller "Midnight in the Garden of Good  
18 and Evil"; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Floyd Adams, Jr., left the mayor's office at the end of 2003, but stayed active  
20 in local politics and was elected to a seat on the Savannah-Chatham County School Board  
21 in 2008; and

22 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern  
23 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his  
24 family and friends were admired by others; and

25 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
26 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness and, by the example he made of his life, he  
27 made this world a better place in which to live; and

28 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Floyd Adams, Jr., will long be remembered  
29 for his love of family and friendship, and this loyal gentleman and friend will be missed by  
30 all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
32 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Floyd Adams, Jr., and  
33 express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Floyd Adams,  
36 Jr.