

House Resolution 1697

By: Representatives Trammell of the 132nd, Boddie of the 62nd, Beverly of the 143rd, Alexander of the 66th, Kendrick of the 93rd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Representative "Able" Mable Thomas on her outstanding
2 public service; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Representative "Able" Mable Thomas has long been recognized by the citizens
4 of this state for the vital role that she has played in leadership and her deep personal
5 commitment to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, for over 28 years, Representative Thomas has been at the forefront of the fight
7 for freedom, justice, and equality for all Georgians and disenfranchised people around the
8 world; and

9 WHEREAS, she first took her place on the political stage in 1984 when she was chosen as
10 a presidential delegate for candidate Reverend Jesse Jackson at the Democratic National
11 Convention held in San Francisco, California; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1997, Representative Thomas was elected to the Atlanta City Council, where
13 she was responsible for passing an Affordable Housing Policy Bill, obtaining \$4.9 million
14 for Atlanta Green Space Conservation, and serving as a major stakeholder in community
15 efforts to secure the Historic Westside Revitalization Project; and

16 WHEREAS, during her time with the Georgia General Assembly, she has championed issues
17 such as women's reproductive health, education reform, living wages, racial profiling,
18 economic development, access to health care, and senior issues; and

19 WHEREAS, Representative Thomas has served as the catalyst for several landmark pieces
20 of legislation, including the Rape Shield Statute, which prevents past sexual history from
21 being included in rape trials, and the Hit and Run Bill, which was passed and signed by the
22 Governor in May 2019; and

23 WHEREAS, she further serves this state as a member of several House committees,
24 including Natural Resources and Environment, Science and Technology, Economic
25 Development and Tourism, and Congressional Reapportionment; and

26 WHEREAS, a dedicated member of her community, Representative Thomas is the founder
27 of the Greater Vine City Opportunities Program Inc., which provides youth and family
28 enrichment and educational opportunities for high-risk urban youth throughout Atlanta's
29 westside; and

30 WHEREAS, her recent purchase of the historic English Avenue Elementary School, which
31 will be converted into a multi-million dollar, state-of-the-art global community center with
32 75 units of affordable housing and community gardens, stands as further testament to her
33 commitment to the people of this state; and

34 WHEREAS, Representative Thomas has served the Georgia House of Representatives with
35 honor and distinction, and her vision and unyielding commitment will be sorely missed upon
36 the occasion of her retirement; and

37 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
38 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
40 the members of this body recognize and commend Representative "Able" Mable Thomas for
41 her efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated public service to the State of Georgia;
42 congratulate her upon the grand occasion of her retirement; and extend the most sincere best
43 wishes for continued health and happiness.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
45 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
46 Representative "Able" Mable Thomas.