

House Resolution 1739

By: Representative Thomas of the 56th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Marvin S. Arrington; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Marvin S. Arrington attended Clark College during the height of the civil rights
3 movement and was exposed to distinguished leaders such as Martin Luther King, Jr., Adam
4 Clayton Powell, and Shirley Chisholm, and in 1965, he transferred from Howard University
5 School of Law to the Emory University School of Law, becoming one of the only two first
6 full-time African-American law students at Emory University; and

7 WHEREAS, after graduating, he worked as a field representative in South Carolina for the
8 Office of Economic Opportunity during President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty,
9 implementing and improving education and health care programs, an experience that showed
10 him the positive, influential power of the government; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1969, his belief in the power of the government led him to run for and win
12 a seat on the Atlanta City Council, and in 1980, he was elected president and served for 16
13 years, winning four reelections; and

14 WHEREAS, in the early 1980s, he devised a plan to issue bonds to finance Zoo Atlanta's
15 renovation and helped Zoo Atlanta become one of the best facilities of its kind in the nation;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, he brought the principles of law he learned at Emory University to his public
18 role as a civic leader and architect of modern Atlanta, and has always maintained ties to
19 Emory University as a trustee, an alumni leader, a student mentor, and a friend of the faculty;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, in 1983, *Atlanta Magazine* named him one of Atlanta's 25 best lawyers and in
22 1993, *Black Enterprise* magazine named his firm, Arrington and Hollowell, one of America's
23 top black law firms; and

24 WHEREAS, now that he is out of office for the first time in more than a quarter-century, he
25 enjoys spending time with his family.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
27 the members of this body recognize Marvin S. Arrington for his outstanding
28 accomplishments and contributions to the State of Georgia and commend his unparalleled
29 leadership and public service.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
31 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
32 Marvin S. Arrington.