

House Resolution 711

By: Representatives Hutchinson of the 106th, Buckner of the 137th, Reese of the 140th, Hugley of the 141st, Jenkins of the 136th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Richmond D. Hill; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the people of the State of Georgia posthumously honor the legacy of the late
3 Richmond D. Hill, a native of Harris County, Georgia, and citizen of Greenville, Georgia.
4 Fifty years ago, he was elected because of the modern civil rights movement as the first
5 African American mayor in the history of Georgia; and

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7 WHEREAS, he was a native son of the state born to parents Johnny and Annie Bell Hill in
8 Harris County on a farm with five siblings and educated in Columbus Public Schools. He
9 wedded the late Mrs. Hiram Hill and survived Virginia, his daughter; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1945, he founded and directed the Hill's Funeral Home Inc. in Greenville and
11 diligently served the community for five decades with compassionate and professional care
12 in their times of need; and

13 WHEREAS, he was recognized among his peers at the Georgia Funeral Service Practitioner's
14 Association and elected as the 5th District chairman and later president of the statewide
15 organization; and

16 WHEREAS, he was a member of Rust Chapel United Methodist Church in Greenville, H.R.
17 Butler Lodge 23 in Atlanta, and a founding member of the Meriwether County Chapter of
18 the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, where he fearlessly led
19 voter registration and organization efforts in the mid-1960s; and

20 WHEREAS, he was elected in 1968 as the first African American city council member in
21 Greenville and in Meriwether County; and

22 WHEREAS, he was elected in 1973 as the first African American mayor of Georgia's history
23 and is credited with improving housing, infrastructure, and municipal services in the city
24 during his ten years of service before passing in 1992; and

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26 WHEREAS, a dedication ceremony in Greenville sponsored by the Georgia Historical
27 Society, the City of Greenville, and the Odessadale Preservation Committee with a Special
28 Civil Rights Trail Historical Marker will take place on March 25, 2023, and we now
29 recognize Richmond D. Hill's contribution to the State of Georgia's valiant and rich civil
30 rights history and legacy.

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32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
33 the life and memory of Richmond D. Hill are honored and his many contributions to the civil
34 rights movement are remembered.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
37 family of Richmond D. Hill.