

House Resolution 1052

By: Representative Brooks of the 55th

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging the Capitol Art Standards Commission to authorize the erection of a statue
2 dedicated to the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was a native son of Georgia, the son of an Atlanta
4 preacher, whose life changed a nation and garnered international love and acclaim; and

5 WHEREAS, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, to be located one block from
6 the capitol, is a proposed archives, museum, and cultural and research center in Atlanta,
7 Georgia, with the mission to commemorate the contributions of Georgians to the struggle for
8 African American freedom and equality; to highlight the contributions of current and future
9 struggles for freedom world wide; to encourage the discussion and study of human and civil
10 rights movements domestically and abroad; and to serve as a center for conflict resolution;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, thousands of visitors to Atlanta will visit the center as well as the Martin Luther
13 King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change located a few blocks from the capitol; and

14 WHEREAS, it is only proper that a statue of Dr. King be placed on the capitol grounds to
15 honor this great man; and

16 WHEREAS, the Statue of Thomas E. Watson was recently removed from the front of the
17 capitol because of construction, and it would be indeed symbolic if Mr. Watson, who
18 represents an unfortunate part of Georgia's past, be replaced with a statue dedicated to
19 Georgia's present and future; and

20 WHEREAS, even if a statue of Dr. King does not directly replace the one of Mr. Watson,
21 still a prominent place should be chosen to honor him and demonstrate to the world that
22 Georgia has moved on from the past and is looking toward the future.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
24 the members of this body encourage the Capitol Art Standards Commission to authorize the
25 erection of a statue dedicated to the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
27 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Capitol Art Standards
28 Commission.