

House Resolution 1324

By: Representative Buckner of the 137<sup>th</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Melda Whittle Blackmar; 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 Melda Whittle Blackmar; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Melda Whittle Blackmar was born on February 15, 1955, in Columbus,  
5 Georgia, a beloved daughter of James Howard Whittle and Azilee Russell Whittle; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Melda Whittle Blackmar served her community with honor and dedication as  
7 a member of the Waverly Hall Fire Department for 12 years as well as the Talbotton Fire  
8 Department for four years; and
- 9 WHEREAS, true to her maiden name, she was drawn by the art of woodworking and  
10 woodturning to join the Columbus Woodworkers Guild and establish Little Whittle's  
11 Woodworking, where she made her many wonderful craft fair creations; and
- 12 WHEREAS, not content to master only woodworking, she further distinguished herself as  
13 a skilled painter and published poet, earning the International Poet of the Year award for her  
14 exemplary artistic prowess; and

15 WHEREAS, during the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic, Melda Whittle  
16 Blackmar tirelessly sewed hundreds of masks and collaborated with the CDC to ensure their  
17 safety for health care workers; and

18 WHEREAS, she was united in love and marriage to her husband, Knox, and was blessed  
19 with two remarkable children, John and Azilee; eight wonderful grandchildren; and four  
20 magnificent great-grandchildren; and

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

24 WHEREAS, Melda Whittle Blackmar was a person of magnanimous strengths with an  
25 unimpeachable reputation for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the  
26 example she made of her life, she made this world a better place in which to live; and

27 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, Melda Whittle Blackmar will long be  
28 remembered for her love of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who  
29 had the great fortune of knowing her.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
31 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Melda Whittle Blackmar  
32 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at her passing.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
34 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
35 family of Melda Whittle Blackmar.