

House Resolution 1413

By: Representatives Frazier of the 126th, Howard of the 124th, Smith of the 125th, Williams of the 87th, McClain of the 100th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Ms. Willie Mae Cooper's commitment to the Head Start
2 program and Burke County community; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, a proper quality education for the young people of this state is the single most
4 important objective of the General Assembly; and

5 WHEREAS, nothing is more vital to the future of our state than the education of our young
6 people, and Ms. Willie Mae Cooper exemplifies the selfless dedication which is
7 characteristic of our finest educators; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper attended the business college of Ashworth College and took classes
9 in business education; and

10 WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper worked for 42 years helping families and children in the CSRA
11 EOA Inc. Head Start program in Burke County; and

12 WHEREAS, in her tenure with the CSRA EOA Head Start program, Ms. Cooper started
13 working as a teacher's assistant in 1971, worked as a teacher's assistant for two years in
14 Gough, Georgia, became a teacher in 1973, was promoted to the center director's position in
15 1985, and served in that position until she retired in July, 2013; and

16 WHEREAS, as the center director, Ms. Cooper supervised up to 25 employees daily, had
17 great leadership and people skills, and exhibited the best attitude any supervisor could
18 possess, always being reassuring and saying "it's okay," whatever happened; and

19 WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper was the backbone of the Burke County Center of the CSRA EOA
20 Head Start program and gave her team the strength that links the strategic planning of upper
21 management with the body of the organization; she knew how to delegate tasks between

22 individuals, gave the support and guidance that was needed for her children, parents, and
23 staff, and was always approachable, encouraging, and understanding; and

24 WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper is very supportive of the self-improvement process and always
25 encourages others to pursue higher dreams; her family, friends, and staff often hear her say,
26 "You can do better; you need to go, because you can do it"; and

27 WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper served on the Vidette City Council for two years and continues to
28 serve as the long-time secretary of Peel Grove Baptist Church; and

29 WHEREAS, the outstanding accomplishments of this remarkable and distinguished Georgian
30 and her devotion to providing the students of Georgia with a quality education are worthy
31 of recognition.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
33 the members of this body recognize and commend Ms. Willie Mae Cooper for her efficient,
34 effective, unselfish, and dedicated contributions to Georgia, the Head Start program, and the
35 Burke County community and extend best wishes for continued health and happiness.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Ms. Willie Mae Cooper.