

House Resolution 164

By: Representatives Beverly of the 143<sup>rd</sup>, Sampson of the 153<sup>rd</sup>, Lewis-Ward of the 115<sup>th</sup>,  
Lupton of the 83<sup>rd</sup>, and Mathis of the 149<sup>th</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Reverend Joe Robert Hairston Jr.; 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 Reverend Joe Robert Hairston Jr. on February 5, 2023; and
- 4 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United  
5 States Army, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans for 22 years, and  
6 he received the Medal Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and Purple Heart  
7 with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters; and
- 8 WHEREAS, after his years of serving our country, he worked for the State of Georgia in the  
9 correctional system, serving as chaplain for the Macon State Prison system for many years;  
10 and
- 11 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Reverend Joe Robert Hairston Jr. served as  
12 pastor of the Union Baptist Church in Macon County, Georgia, and the New Home Baptist  
13 Church of Taylor County, Georgia; and

14 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Evelyn, and was blessed with  
15 many loving family members as well as several nieces and nephews, including State  
16 Representative Patty Bentley; and

17 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern  
18 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his  
19 family and friends were admired by others; and

20 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
21 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he made of his life, he  
22 made this world a better place in which to live; and

23 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Reverend Joe Robert Hairston Jr. will long  
24 be remembered for his love of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all  
25 who had the great fortune of knowing him.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
27 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Reverend Joe Robert  
28 Hairston Jr. and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
30 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
31 family of Reverend Joe Robert Hairston Jr.