

House Resolution 208

By: Representative Leverett of the 123<sup>rd</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and dedicating a road in his  
2 memory; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., stands as one of the most prominent  
4 Georgians of the twentieth century; and

5 WHEREAS, Reverend King attended public school in Georgia, graduating from high school  
6 at the age of 15, and received his bachelor's degree in 1948 from Morehouse College; and

7 WHEREAS, after three years of theological study at Crozer Theological Seminary in  
8 Pennsylvania, where he was elected president of the senior class, he was awarded a divinity  
9 degree in 1951, and, with a fellowship won at Crozer, he enrolled in graduate studies at  
10 Boston University, completing his residence for the doctorate in 1953 and receiving his  
11 doctoral degree in 1955; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1957, Reverend King was elected president of the Southern Christian  
13 Leadership Conference, and, in the 11 years between 1957 and 1968, he traveled over six  
14 million miles and spoke over 2,500 times in support of civil rights and wrote five books as  
15 well as numerous articles; and

H. R. 208

- 1 -

16 WHEREAS, he led a massive protest in Birmingham, Alabama, that caught the attention of  
17 the entire world, providing what he called a coalition of conscience and inspiring his "Letter  
18 from a Birmingham Jail," a manifesto of the Civil Rights Movement in the United States; and

19 WHEREAS, Reverend King also planned and participated in numerous protests and  
20 demonstrations for the cause of civil rights including the peaceful march on Washington,  
21 D.C., of 250,000 people to whom he delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" address at the  
22 Lincoln Memorial; and

23 WHEREAS, he was awarded five honorary degrees; was named Man of the Year by *Time*  
24 magazine in 1963; and, at the age of 35, was the youngest man to have been awarded the  
25 Nobel Peace Prize; and

26 WHEREAS, through his tireless work on behalf of civil rights for all people, he became not  
27 only the symbolic leader of African Americans in the United States but also a world figure  
28 in the fight for justice for all; and

29 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished  
30 Georgian be recognized appropriately by dedicating a road in his memory.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL  
32 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the portion of Georgia Business Route 10 within the city  
33 limits of Washington in Wilkes County is dedicated as the MLK Memorial Drive.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and  
35 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the MLK Memorial Drive.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
37 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
38 family of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and to the Department of Transportation.