

## House Resolution 573

By: Representatives Scott of the 76<sup>th</sup>, Douglas of the 78<sup>th</sup>, Holly of the 111<sup>th</sup>, Stovall of the 74<sup>th</sup>, and Frazier of the 126<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Joni Gross McRae; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Joni Gross McRae is a native of Great Neck, New York, where she grew up and  
3 attended the Manhasset school system; she is the youngest of four, born to the late Willie A.  
4 Gross and Jewel Tyler Gross, both of Augusta, Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, at four years old, Joni was introduced to Civil Rights as she marched with her  
6 mother for school integration in Long Island, New York; this historic event was her  
7 launching point for public service, nonprofit participation, and volunteerism; and

8 WHEREAS, Joni began her volunteer work in the mid 70's serving as the youngest member  
9 of the Board of Directors at her local Economic Opportunity Commission (EOC), developing  
10 policies for youth and community issues; and

11 WHEREAS, Joni's first public service appointment was as a legislative intern, serving in the  
12 New York State Capitol; this work became the fabric that Joni is made of, as she began her  
13 professional endeavors as a Human Rights Specialist at the New York City Commission on  
14 Human Rights; she spent countless hours working in communities volunteering long after  
15 the work day was over; Joni also served as the founding Deputy Director at the New York  
16 City Commission on Human Rights, Training Institute; and

17 WHEREAS, she relocated to Georgia 18 years ago and began creating her Georgia blueprint  
18 of service as a Henry County School Advisory Member; she soon after became an active and  
19 devoted Girl Scout Leader and Gold Award advisor, leading her into a career move with Girl  
20 Scouts of Greater Atlanta as a Senior Community Engagement Specialist managing Henry,  
21 Rockdale, and Newton counties; and

22 WHEREAS, Joni is currently an active participant and charter member of the National  
23 Council of Negro Woman, Clayton Henry Chapter, where she serves on the Hospitality

24 Committee, member of the Henry County Democratic Women, board member of the  
25 Commissioner Bruce Holmes Youth Foundation Board of Directors, chairperson of the  
26 Henry County Council on Aging Board of Directors, and faithful member of Tabernacle of  
27 Praise Church International; and

28 WHEREAS, Joni holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the State University of New York,  
29 College at New Paltz, where she accomplished a double major in Political Science and Black  
30 Studies; and

31 WHEREAS, Joni and Bernard, her husband of 22 years, are the proud parents of two  
32 daughters and three sons; and

33 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
34 extraordinary leader be appropriately recognized.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
36 the members of this body recognize and commend Joni Gross McRae for her innumerable  
37 contributions to the State of Georgia, the United States, and the world; and extend their  
38 sincere best wishes for continued success.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
40 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Joni  
41 Gross McRae.