

House Resolution 687

By: Representatives Boddie of the 62nd, Holland of the 54th, Dreyer of the 59th, Jackson of the 64th, Schofield of the 60th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending the NAACP Atlanta Branch; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the NAACP Atlanta Branch has a long and consistent record of service to the
3 community and this state and has been recognized as one of the most dynamic and
4 committed civic organizations in Georgia; and
- 5 WHEREAS, in celebration of the 105th anniversary of the NAACP Atlanta Branch, the
6 organization continues its mission of service to freedom and equality; and
- 7 WHEREAS, the branch was chartered in 1917 by historic leaders James Weldon Johnson,
8 Harry Pace, Dr. Charles Johnson, Dr. Louis Wright, and Walter White; and
- 9 WHEREAS, later on, Reverend Martin Luther King Sr. served on the NAACP Atlanta
10 Branch's executive committee, and his son, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., chaired the youth
11 membership committee of the Atlanta NAACP Youth Council in 1944; and
- 12 WHEREAS, during the 1950s and 1960s, the NAACP Atlanta Branch fought segregation by
13 filing lawsuits and petitions against golf courses, restaurants, transportation entities, and
14 other businesses; and

15 WHEREAS, the branch takes inspiration from Dr. King's statement in his NAACP
16 Emancipation Rally in 1957, "I close by saying there is nothing greater in all the world than
17 freedom. It's worth going to jail for. It's worth losing a job for. It's worth dying for. My
18 friends, go out this evening determined to achieve this freedom which God wants for all of
19 His children"; and

20 WHEREAS, Richard Rose, the new president of the branch, honors the legacy of the
21 NAACP with his focus on voter engagement, housing and urban development, employment
22 discrimination, education, job placement and training, women and minority employment,
23 police brutality, affirmative action, and legislative monitoring; and

24 WHEREAS, the branch has joined among the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic to
25 mitigate its impact on Black and Brown communities; and

26 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
27 extraordinary organization be appropriately honored.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
29 the members of this body recognize and commend the NAACP Atlanta Branch for its many
30 valuable contributions on behalf of the citizens of Georgia and extend best wishes for the
31 future.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
34 NAACP Atlanta Branch.