

House Resolution 944

By: Representatives Ralston of the 7th, Greene of the 151st, Yearata of the 152nd, Dukes of the 154th, and Hopson of the 153rd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Lionel "Little Train" James; 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 Lionel "Little Train" James; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Lionel was born on May 25, 1962, in Putney, Georgia, a beloved son of Joe and
5 Cherrine James; and
- 6 WHEREAS, after graduating from Dougherty High School, Lionel took his athletic talents
7 to Auburn University to play football, where he earned the nickname of "Little Train," a
8 name synonymous with his physicality and build; and
- 9 WHEREAS, in 1985, he set an NFL record in all-purpose yards (2,535); led the San Diego
10 Chargers in rushing, receiving, and kickoff and punt return yards; and was named the
11 Chargers' most valuable player; and
- 12 WHEREAS, in 2000, Lionel was voted one of the Chargers' 40 all-time favorites at the
13 franchise's fortieth anniversary, and he was additionally inducted into the Alabama Sports
14 Hall of Fame in 2006; and

15 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Kesha, and was blessed with
16 three remarkable children, Lionel II, Kasey, and Janet, as well as two wonderful
17 grandchildren, Jacob and Braxton; and

18 WHEREAS, after retiring from football, Lionel served the community of Birmingham,
19 Alabama, as an educator, encouraging today's youth to achieve greatness; and

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

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

26 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Lionel will long be remembered for his
27 love of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who had the great
28 fortune of knowing him.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Lionel "Little Train" James
31 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

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 family of Lionel "Little Train" James.