

Senate Resolution 1276

By: Senators Tate of the 38th, Fort of the 39th, Orrock of the 36th, Seay of the 34th and James of the 35th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Collier Heights community and the Collier Heights
2 Community Association; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Collier Heights community was established in 1952 and was designated a
4 Historic District on the National Registry of Historic Places by the United States Department
5 of the Interior; and

6 WHEREAS, the Atlanta City Council enacted legislation in 2013 to preserve the
7 architectural character and history of the Collier Heights community, effectively establishing
8 the area in northwest Atlanta as one of only 18 local Historic Districts under the City of
9 Atlanta Department of Planning and Community Development and the Atlanta Urban Design
10 Commission; and

11 WHEREAS, Atlanta's racial zoning laws, discriminatory real estate practices, and biased
12 ethics codes were just a few of the restrictions of the time that allowed racially restrictive
13 covenants to prevent African American home buyers from purchasing homes in many newly
14 developed areas throughout the city; and

15 WHEREAS, the mid-20th century was a time of intense change and expansion in Atlanta,
16 and the Collier Heights community is recognized as the first African American neighborhood
17 to be funded by African Americans, designed and built by African Americans, specifically
18 for African Americans; and

19 WHEREAS, the upscale design and affluence of the new custom-built houses in the Collier
20 Heights neighborhoods did not escape the attention of the national media, with features of
21 African American suburbs in the *New York Times* and *Time* magazine; and

22 WHEREAS, the Collier Heights community eventually grew to encompass 54 individual
23 subdivisions and more than 1,700 homes, schools, and churches in Atlanta's northwest side
24 of town; and

25 WHEREAS, for more than 50 years, the Collier Heights community has thrived as an area
26 recognized for being the home of Atlanta's most notable civic and business leaders since the
27 era of segregation, through the Civil Rights Movement, many of whom still maintain their
28 homes in the community today; and

29 WHEREAS, Collier Heights is significant at the local, state, and national levels for its
30 historic, architectural, and cultural characteristics, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that
31 the community, its residents, and the neighborhood association be appropriately recognized.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 recognize the rich history and legacy of the Collier Heights community and commend the
34 Collier Heights Community Association for its commitment to maintaining the community's
35 history and protecting, preserving, and promoting this amazing community for more than 60
36 years.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
38 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Collier Heights Community
39 Association.