

Senate Resolution 13EX

By: Senator Halpern of the 39th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the life and artistic legacy of Radcliffe Bailey; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Radcliffe Bailey, an esteemed American contemporary visual artist, left an  
3 indelible mark on the world of art through his profound exploration of African American  
4 history, utilizing mixed-media, paint, and sculpture to convey powerful narratives; and

5 WHEREAS, born on November 25, 1968, in Bridgeton, New Jersey, Radcliffe Bailey's  
6 artistic journey was deeply influenced by his early relocation to Atlanta, Georgia, at the age  
7 of four, where childhood visits to the High Museum of Art and drawing classes at the Atlanta  
8 College of Art ignited his passion for the arts; and

9 WHEREAS, Radcliffe Bailey's commitment to artistic expression led him to attain a  
10 Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1991 from the Atlanta College of Art, and subsequently, he shared  
11 his knowledge and passion as a teacher at the Lamar Dodd School of Art at the University  
12 of Georgia from 2001 to 2006; and

13 WHEREAS, Radcliffe Bailey's artistic prowess transcended traditional boundaries as he  
14 seamlessly integrated painting and sculpture, utilizing unconventional materials such as

15 vintage photographs, vinyl records, piano keys, and bottle caps to explore the intersections  
16 of ancestry, race, and cultural memory; and

17 WHEREAS, his notable large-scale installation, Windward Coast (2009-2011), was  
18 showcased at the First International Biennial of Contemporary Art of Cartagena de Indias in  
19 Colombia, and his artistic contributions were duly recognized with the Joan Mitchell  
20 Foundation Grant in 2008 and the Elizabeth and Mallory Factory Prize for Southern Art in  
21 2010; and

22 WHEREAS, Radcliffe Bailey's life journey took an unfortunate turn as he battled brain  
23 cancer with resilience and courage, ultimately passing away on November 14, 2023, in  
24 Atlanta, Georgia, leaving a void in the art world but a profound legacy that will continue to  
25 inspire generations to come; and

26 WHEREAS, Radcliffe Bailey, aged 54 at the time of his passing, will be remembered not  
27 only for his artistic brilliance but also for the love and dedication he brought to his family,  
28 leaving behind a lasting impact on the artistic and cultural landscape of Atlanta, Georgia, and  
29 beyond.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
31 celebrate and honor the life, artistic contributions, and legacy of Radcliffe Bailey;  
32 acknowledge his significant impact on the world of contemporary art; and express our  
33 deepest condolences to his family, friends, and the artistic community.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
35 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of  
36 Radcliffe Bailey.