

Senate Resolution 161

By: Senator Halpern of the 39th

### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Xernona Clayton as the first recipient and namesake of the  
2 Atlanta-Fulton County Day Foundation Inc. General Assembly Appreciation Reception; and  
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Xernona Clayton moved to Atlanta in 1965 where she accepted a position with  
5 the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and worked closely with the late Dr. Martin  
6 Luther King Jr.; she also traveled extensively with Mrs. Coretta Scott King on her nationwide  
7 concert tours; and

8 WHEREAS, her persistent fight against the demons of prejudice and bigotry was never more  
9 apparent than in 1968, when the grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan denounced the Klan and  
10 credited Xernona's influence with his change; and

11 WHEREAS, Xernona was employed at Turner Broadcasting for nearly 30 years where she  
12 served as a corporate executive and became one of its highest-ranking female employees  
13 when she was appointed corporate vice president for urban affairs; in this capacity, she  
14 directed internal and external projects for the corporation and served as liaison between  
15 Turner Broadcasting and civic groups in Atlanta and across the country; and

16 WHEREAS, a recipient of numerous media awards, she has been widely honored for her  
17 contributions to humanity, including recognition from the Atlanta-Fulton Day Foundation  
18 Inc. board of directors; and

19 WHEREAS, this distinguished gentlewoman has given inspiration to many through her high  
20 ideals, morals, and deep concern for her fellow citizens; and

21 WHEREAS, Xernona possesses the vast wisdom which only comes through experience and  
22 the strength of character which is achieved through overcoming the many challenges of life;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, she has witnessed a dramatic change in the world over the course of her lifetime  
25 and we salute her contribution to its progress by her own hard work and good citizenship;  
26 and

27 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding achievements of this  
28 extraordinary leader be appropriately honored.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
30 recognize and commend Xernona Clayton as the first recipient and namesake of the  
31 Atlanta-Fulton County Day Foundation Inc. General Assembly Appreciation Reception and  
32 extend the most sincere best wishes for continued success.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
34 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Xernona Clayton.