

Senate Resolution 608

By: Senators James of the 35th, Rhett of the 33rd, Seay of the 34th, Orrock of the 36th and Tate of the 38th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Willie Mae Hardy; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished and
3 longest living citizens with the passing of Willie Mae Hardy on December 11, 2019; and
- 4 WHEREAS, she recently celebrated her 111th birthday on March 11; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Willie Mae Hardy was born on March 11, 1908, in Junction City, Georgia, a
6 beloved daughter of Celia Durham; and
- 7 WHEREAS, she was a witness to major historical developments for Georgia, the United
8 States, and the world, living through 20 presidents, both World Wars, and the Civil Rights
9 Movement; and
- 10 WHEREAS, a woman of deep and abiding faith, Willie Mae was an active member of her
11 community and church for decades; and
- 12 WHEREAS, her childhood consisted of church, attending to her younger seven siblings,
13 going to school, and working in the cotton fields; and
- 14 WHEREAS, she gave birth to her only child, Cassie Neil, in 1925 and moved to Atlanta in
15 1939 for a better life. It was in Atlanta that she met and married the love of her life, Mr.
16 Frank Hardy; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hardy became the backbone of her family, which grew to include several
18 grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren, as she helped raise future
19 generations as well as become the focal point for their weekly reunions for Sunday family
20 dinner; and

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

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

27 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, Willie Mae Hardy will long be
28 remembered for her love of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who
29 had the great fortune of knowing her.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
31 join in honoring the life and memory of Willie Mae Hardy and express their deepest and
32 most sincere regret at her passing.

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 the family of
35 Willie Mae Hardy.