

A RESOLUTION

By: Representative Jon Burns - District 157
Georgia House of Representatives

Recognizing and commending Mrs. Naomi Ruth Barber King; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Naomi Ruth Barber King stood as a First Lady to the Civil Rights Movement, providing support and encouragement to Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and her husband, Reverend Dr. Alfred Daniel Williams King; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. King and her mother, Bessie Barber, moved to Atlanta when she was a child, where she was brought up in the finest clothes, learned the height of social graces, and received a high quality education; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. King's beauty and poise were admired and coveted by others, as she was often selected by local clothing stores to perform as a fashion model and was featured in shop circulars and windows; and

WHEREAS, a stellar student who excelled in French and English, Mrs. King's talent in writing poetry, singing, and dancing were held in high esteem, and she had the unique opportunity to address her graduating class at their high school graduation; and

WHEREAS, as a member of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Mrs. King caught the eye of A.D. King, the youngest son of the church's pastor, Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr., and his wife, Alberta; and

WHEREAS, after a story book courtship, she was united in love and marriage to A.D. King, a partnership that would bless her with five remarkable children; and

WHEREAS, during their marriage, Mrs. King and her husband would endure bombings of their home and threats to their lives as the Civil Rights Movement gained momentum and changed the world, yet she remained steadfast and provided quiet support to her husband and his brother; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his vital role in the Civil Rights Movement, Reverend A.D. King shepherded four churches with Mrs. King by his side, initiating harmonious musical concerts, creating women's enrichment programs, and providing gracious tools for living to their devoted congregations; and

WHEREAS, after her husband's passing, Mrs. King made a commitment to share with the world his many outstanding contributions, establishing the nonprofit organization, the A.D. King Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the A.D. King Foundation educates the public on the real history of the Civil Rights Movement while highlighting Reverend Dr. A.D. King's role and legacy, and a documentary project, *A.D. King: Brother to the Dreamer*, has been created honoring his legendary journey; and

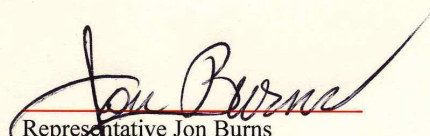
WHEREAS, in honor of her incredible commitment to change and progress, Mrs. King was honored with a 2008 Rosa Parks Freedom Award from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; and

WHEREAS, this loving and generous mother, grandmother, and friend is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and, by the example she has made of her life, she makes this world a better place in which to live.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNDERSIGNED that Mrs. Naomi Ruth Barber King is commended on her inspiring and selfless service to others and sincere best wishes are extended for continued health, happiness, and success.

So resolved, this 3rd day of April, 2009.





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