

House Resolution 961

By: Representatives Ralston of the 7th, Burns of the 159th, Jones of the 47th, Hatchett of the 150th, Kelley of the 16th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Dedicating the Ways & Means conference room under the jurisdiction of the House of
2 Representatives to Representative Alfred Jackson "Jay" Powell Jr.; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
4 with the passing of Representative Alfred Jackson "Jay" Powell Jr. on Tuesday, November
5 26, 2019; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative Powell was born on November 18, 1952, in Quitman, Georgia,
7 a beloved son of the late A.J. and Mary Powell; and

8 WHEREAS, a member of the State Bar of Georgia, he practiced law with his long-term
9 business partner Bill Erwin in Camilla, Georgia, and he served as a judge for the Municipal
10 Court of Camilla, as president of the Mitchell County Bar Association, and as a member of
11 the Mitchell County Law Library Board of Trustees and the Georgia Institute of Continuing
12 Legal Education Board of Trustees; and

13 WHEREAS, an active member of his community, Representative Powell held various
14 executive roles within the Camilla Chamber of Commerce, received the Citizen of the Year
15 award in 2001 and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008, and served as a faithful
16 member of the Camilla Rotary Club; and

17 WHEREAS, a dedicated and venerable public servant, Representative Powell served as
18 mayor of Camilla from 1996–2007; he was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives
19 in 2008, where he represented House District 171 until his passing; and

20 WHEREAS, as part of his service in the House of Representatives, Representative Powell
21 served as chairperson of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Public Safety, the Ways and
22 Means Committee, and the Rules Committee; and

23 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Deidra, and was blessed with
24 five remarkable children, Jessica, Erica, Elizabeth, Nicholas, and Isabella; and one wonderful
25 grandson, John; and

26 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern
27 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his
28 family and friends were admired by others; and

29 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
30 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he made of his life, he
31 made this world a better place in which to live; and

32 WHEREAS, Representative Powell's significant organizational and leadership talents,
33 remarkable patience and diplomacy, keen sense of vision, and sensitivity to the needs of the
34 citizens of this state have earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and
35 associates.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 the members of this body dedicate the Ways & Means conference room under the jurisdiction
38 of the House of Representatives in honor and solemn memory of Representative Alfred
39 Jackson "Jay" Powell Jr. and authorize the placement of an appropriate plaque so dedicating
40 such conference room.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
42 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
43 family of Representative Alfred Jackson "Jay" Powell Jr.