

A RESOLUTION BY THE STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD OF GEORGIA 1991

RALPH DAVID ABERNATHY FREEWAY — DESIGNATED.

WHEREAS, the Honorable Ralph David Abernathy lived and died serving with distinction in various leadership roles in the State of Georgia, the nation, and the world and working for the cause of justice, equality, and peace for all people; and

WHEREAS, he served with distinction in the U.S. Army during World War II, attaining the rank of Platoon Sergeant, studied at the Morehouse School of Religion, and received a Master's degree in sociology from Atlanta University; and

WHEREAS, he was co-founder of the Atlanta-based national Civil Rights Movement, which paved the way for millions of Americans to realize the American Dream of freedom and equality; and

WHEREAS, he served with honor and dignity side-by-side with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as a leader of the Movement and at the time of Dr. King's death he took up the mantle of leadership to complete the work they started together; and

WHEREAS, in his lifetime he addressed the United Nations, advised and worked with four Georgia governors, seven U.S. Presidents, received more than 300 honors, including 27 honorary doctorate degrees from leading American universities; and

WHEREAS, through the principles of non-violence, dignity, and integrity which characterized his life he is an example to Georgians and to all Americans; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that Dr. Abernathy's accomplishments should be publicly recognized.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, be it resolved, that the section of Interstate Highway 20 inside the Perimeter Highway, Interstate 285, located in DeKalb and Fulton Counties, be named the "Ralph David Abernathy Freeway."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation is authorized and direct to erect appropriate signing for this designation, that a copy of this resolution be entered in the records of this Board, and that a copy be presented to the Abernathy family.

Unanimously adopted this 18th day of April, 1991.