

ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA 2021

Act 301

Senate Resolution 39, Part XI

Effective May 10, 2021

MAYOR EDNA JACKSON INTERCHANGE — DESIGNATED.

A RESOLUTION

Dedicating certain portions of the state highway system; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, Mayor Edna Jackson has long been recognized by the citizens of this state for the vital role that she has played in leadership and her deep personal commitment to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Jackson was born on September 18, 1944, in Savannah, Georgia, the beloved daughter of Henry Reid and Georgia Branch Dillard; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Alfred E. Beach High School, Mayor Jackson earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Savannah State University and was active in the Youth Council of the NAACP, traveling throughout the South while in college to assist in voter registration drives and sit-in demonstrations; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Jackson began her career as a social worker with the Economic Opportunity Authority for Savannah-Chatham County Area and, in 1971, was hired to serve as the director of the emergency school assistant program at Savannah State University, where she also served as the director of alumni affairs and coordinator of the Elderhostel Program before her retirement in 2001; and

WHEREAS, she began her political career as alderman at large on the City Council of Savannah, serving for three terms, and then served as mayor pro tempore of Savannah for two terms; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, Mayor Jackson became the first African American woman to be elected as mayor of Savannah, serving for one term; and

WHEREAS, she has been recognized with numerous awards and accolades, including the A Working Woman in Need's Top 10 Working Women of the Year Award, Outstanding Alumnus by Savannah State University, and one of the 2012 Power Women by *Georgia Trend* magazine; and

WHEREAS, her leadership has been instrumental to numerous organizations, including as the southern regional vice president and national vice president of Savannah State University and vice chairman of the Chatham County Democratic Executive Committee and World Trade Center Savannah, Chatham County Hospital Authority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, St. Phillip A.M.E. Church, the U.S. Selective Board, and the Georgia Advisory Committee for the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, the Military Academy Selection Committee and the Regional Committee of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, Savannah Regional Second Harvest Food Bank, and Equal Opportunity Authority; and

WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished Georgian be recognized appropriately by dedicating an interchange in her honor.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA, that the interchange at Interstate 516 and Veterans Parkway in Chatham County, is dedicated as the Mayor Edna Jackson Interchange.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Transportation is authorized and directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the road facility named in this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to make appropriate copies of this Resolution available for distribution to the Department of Transportation and to the family of Mayor Edna Jackson.