ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA 2025

Act 366 Senate Resolution 7, Part XII & 12th Paragraph of Part XXVIII Effective May 14, 2025

REVEREND DR. HOSEA WILLIAMS AND REP. JUANITA T. WILLIAMS MEMORIAL INTERCHANGE — DESIGNATED.

A RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, the dedication of the Rev. Dr. Hosea Williams and Rep. Juanita T. Williams Memorial Interchange was sponsored by Representative Carl Gilliard as HR 1253 in the 2024 Session; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Hosea L. Williams and Rep. Juanita T. Williams have long been recognized by the citizens of this state for the vital roles that they have played in leadership and their deep personal commitment to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Hosea L. Williams was a renowned civil rights leader whose work was crucial in achieving one of the civil rights movement's greatest accomplishments, the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Bill and the 1965 Voting Rights Act; and

WHEREAS, born on January 5, 1926, Rev. Dr. Williams was orphaned at the age of ten after his blind mother passed away, yet he went on to earn a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Morris Brown College, earn a Purple Heart for his heroic service during World War II, and become a renowned research chemist with the United States Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Rep. Juanita Williams graduated third in her class at Savannah State College an earned a master's degree from Atlanta University; and

WHEREAS, she was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives in 1984 and diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of her time, talents, and energy toward the betterment of her community and state for four terms; and

WHEREAS, following the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to "clothe the naked and feed the hungry," Rev. Dr. and Rep. Williams founded the Hosea Feed the Hungry and Homeless aid organization in 1970, which is currently the largest direct-to-client food service organization in the Southeast and a provider of medical and educational aid in Haiti and Philippines; and

WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that these remarkable and distinguished Georgians be appropriately recognized by dedicating an interchange in their memory.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA, that the interchange at State Route 405 and State Route 204 in Chatham County, is dedicated as the Rev. Dr. Hosea Williams and Rep. Juanita T. Williams Memorial 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 Rev. Dr. Hosea Williams and Rep. Juanita T. Williams.