

RESOLUTION

NO.

WHEREAS, Congressman John Robert Lewis, an American civil rights icon and beloved Georgian, died on Friday, July 17, 2020;

WHEREAS, he was a son of an Alabama sharecropper and was elected in 1986 as a Democrat from Georgia to the U.S. House of Representatives;

WHEREAS, he met Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. when he was 18 years old and would later help Dr. King organize the 1963 March on Washington;

WHEREAS, he worked to integrate lunch counters in the South, and was one of the original "Freedom Riders" who helped integrate segregated buses, during which he was beaten by white mobs in South Carolina and Alabama;

WHEREAS, in Selma, Alabama, in 1965, he suffered a skull fracture during a march for Black voting rights after a savage beating by a white state trooper on "Bloody Sunday";

WHEREAS, images of the Selma march led to passage of the landmark 1965 Voting Rights Act five months later;

WHEREAS, Congressman Lewis founded the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and attended Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee where he was first arrested during a sit-in at segregated lunch counters;

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama awarded Congressman Lewis the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the U.S.'s highest civilian honor, in 2011;

WHEREAS, this Council desires to recognize the memory of Congressman John Robert Lewis and preserve his legacy of nonviolent democratic activism and his devotion to the causes of freedom and equality.

NOW, THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY RESOLVES:

We hereby express our sincere condolences and deepest sympathy to the family of Congressman John Robert Lewis, American civil rights icon and beloved Georgian. His legacy of civil rights activism, peaceful protest, courage and strength will long be

remembered in the Columbus community, the State of Georgia, and our nation.

Let a copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Atlanta Office of Congressman John Robert Lewis.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia held on the 28th day of July, 2020, and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ten members of Council.

Councilor Allen	voting	_____.
Councilor Barnes	voting	_____.
Councilor Crabb	voting	_____.
Councilor Davis	voting	_____.
Councilor Garrett	voting	_____.
Councilor House	voting	_____.
Councilor Huff	voting	_____.
Councilor Thomas	voting	_____.
Councilor Thompson	voting	_____.
Councilor Woodson	voting	_____.

SANDRA T. DAVIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL

B.H. "SKIP" HENDERSON, III
MAYOR