

**A RESOLUTION
OF THE GEORGIA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION
HONORING THE “ORIGINAL 33”
THE FIRST BLACK STATE LEGISLATORS ELECTED
TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA**

WHEREAS, in 1868, 33 African Americans, the “Original 33,” were elected to the General Assembly of Georgia: Senators Aaron Alpeoria Bradley, Tunis Campbell, Sr., and George Wallace, and Representatives Thomas M. Allen, Eli Barnes, Thomas Beard, Edwin Belcher, Tunis Campbell, Jr., Malcolm Claiborn, George H. Clower, Abram Colby, John T. Costin, Madison Davis, Monday Floyd, F. H. Fyall, Samuel Gardner, William A. Golden, William Guilford, William Henry Harrison, Ulysses L. Houston, Philip Joiner, George Linder, Robert Lumpkin, Romulus Moore, Peter O’Neal, James Ward Porter, Alfred Richardson, James M. Simms, Abraham Smith, Alexander Stone, Henry McNeal Turner, John Warren, and Samuel Williams; and

WHEREAS, the Original 33 were elected by the residents of local communities throughout Georgia and served as representatives of cities and towns whose residents sought a voice in the governance of the state; and

WHEREAS, the election and service of the Original 33 represented an important milestone in representative government and affirmed the principle that all communities and all residents should have the opportunity to participate fully in the democratic process; and

WHEREAS, in September of 1868, the Original 33 were expelled from the General Assembly of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly recently passed the “Original 33 Memorial Act” as House Bill 303 by Representative Carl Gilliard of Savannah, which bill was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives and the Senate with bipartisan support, was signed into law by Governor Kemp, and requires the placement of a permanent memorial on the grounds of the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the Georgia Municipal Association honor the Original 33 and recognize them for their pioneering work to integrate the General Assembly of Georgia and represent the interests of Georgia cities and all their residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GEORGIA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION that this Board recognizes and honors the Original 33 for their historic service in the Georgia General Assembly, their representation of cities and towns across the state, and their lasting legacy in strengthening representative government.

ADOPTED this _____ day of June, 26 2026.

President Bianca Motley Broom,
Mayor, City of College Park

ATTEST:

Larry H. Hanson
CEO and Executive Director