

Resolution No. 13-134

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, are pleased to recognize Dr. George W. Grayson during Black History Month, 2013. He was the first African American elected to the Alabama House of Representatives from Huntsville, Alabama, District 19, and was further distinguished by becoming the first Freshman Legislator to be appointed Chairman of the powerful Education Committee; and,

WHEREAS, efforts to successfully establish single-member voting districts in Huntsville and Madison County were sponsored by and forced into reality by Dr. George Grayson. This led to the election of the first African American to the City Council, the Madison County Commission, and the first African American elected to the Huntsville Board of Education from single member districts; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Grayson sponsored legislation providing railroad service to south Huntsville industries, and annexed rock quarries in north Madison County into the City of Huntsville to provide safety regulations for the citizens of that area. Along with Rep. Bob Albright, he helped break the stalemate on I-565 construction by bringing mutual understanding to the Office of the Governor and the Attorney General. He successfully led efforts to prevent the establishment of a state minimum security prison in the City of Huntsville; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Grayson contributed immeasurably to the economy of the City of Huntsville by securing more than \$50 million in one-time funding and an increase of more than \$15 million annually in continuing appropriations for Alabama A & M University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Grayson received the Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Biology Education from Alabama A & M University, and his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Cytogenetics was earned from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. Dr. Grayson taught high school science, was a high school guidance counselor, an Assistant Professor of Biology for several years at Alabama A & M University, Normal, Alabama, and later became Chairman of that Department. He also served as Head Counselor, Project Nexus at J.F. Drake State Technical College, Huntsville, Alabama; and,

WHEREAS, the subject of his Master Thesis in Biology and Counseling was "The Effects of a Comprehensive Guidance Program Upon the Achievement of Thirty-Two Selected Seventh and Eighth Graders at Tennessee Valley High School, Hillsboro, Alabama." Many publications in the field of biology, cryoprotective agents, DNA, and serum proteins were written by Dr. Grayson; and,

WHEREAS, over the years, many honors and awards were bestowed upon Dr. Grayson including but not limited to: International Who's Who of Intellectuals, 1978; Phi Beta Sigma Man of the Year, 1971;

Excellence in Education Award - Huntsville Education Association, 1984; Outstanding Citizen Award - Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, 1983; Alumnus of the Year Nominee - Alabama A & M Alumni Association 1979 and 1984; elected to Alabama House of Representatives in 1983 and re-elected in 1986 and 1990. Dr. Grayson is a concerned citizen of his community as is proven by his membership in many social and civic organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, that we express our appreciation to Dr. George Grayson for his devoted interest and many achievements in the betterment of our city and state. We convey our heartiest congratulations by honoring him this Black History Month, February 2013.

ADOPTED on this the 28th day of February, 2013.

President of the City Council of the
City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED on this the 28th day of February, 2013.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama