

Proclamation

WHEREAS,

In 1971, Dr. Rita Jackson Samuels was appointed Governor Jimmy Carter's Coordinator of the Governor's Council on Human Relations, making her the first black woman in Georgia's history to serve on the personal staff of a Georgia Governor; and



FULTON COUNTY

WHEREAS,

Dr. Rita Samuels worked as a consultant with the Carter White House Staff in 1977, as well as with the Community Services Administration, and in 1983, she served as Director of Mayor Andrew Young's Office of Citizens & Community Affairs, and she served on the national board of a national Anti-Poverty Rural Development Agency; and



FULTON COUNTY

WHEREAS,

Dr. Rita Samuels served as secretary for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Operation Breadbasket Department under the administration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and since that time, has worked with SCLC Presidents Abernathy, Lowery, King III, Shuttlesworth, and Steele; and



FULTON COUNTY

WHEREAS,

Dr. Rita Samuels was the first woman to serve on the Georgia State Election Board, was appointed to the State Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, and she lobbied for and served as the first Chair of the Georgia Commission on Women; and



FULTON COUNTY

WHEREAS,

Dr. Rita Samuels was selected by the Atlanta Business League as one of the 100 Most Influential Black Women in Atlanta in 1977 and 1998, and she served on the Board of the National Women's History Museum and was selected by Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter as a Rosalynn Carter Fellow at the Institute of Women's Studies at Emory University;



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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, in commemoration of Women's History Month, recognize Rita Jackson Samuels for a life of integrity and advocacy for civil rights, and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, March 16, 2022 as "DR. RITA JACKSON SAMUELS APPRECIATION DAY" in Fulton County, Georgia.



FULTON COUNTY

Fulton County Board of Commissioners

Sponsoring Commissioner

Chair to the Commission

Attest:

Commissioner

Clerk to the Commission

F U L T O N C O U N T Y