

Proclamation



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WHEREAS, Dr. Mary Ann Smith Wilson was the eldest of seven children on July 1, 1940, in Atlanta Georgia to Alice and J.T. Smith; she was raised in the Summer Hill Community and graduated Valedictorian of L.J. Price High School class of 1957 and matriculated to Morris Brown College where she graduated Magna Cum Laude and earned her Bachelor's degree in Biology and received the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship for graduate study and earned her Master's degree in Zoology from the University of California at Berkley, and later earned her M.D. degree from the University of California San Francisco School of Medicine in 1975, followed by three years of pediatric residency at Children's Hospital in Oakland, California; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wilson became involved in student government while a student at Morris Brown College which led her involvement in the Atlanta Student Movement and the formation of the Committee on Appeal for Human Rights where she was elected Secretary; Dr. Wilson was one of the six original signers of the document, An Appeal for Human Rights, which was published in several Atlanta area newspapers in 1960 and led to mass, organized civil demonstrations that served to desegregate Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, the Georgia House of Representatives honored Dr. Wilson for her contribution to Atlanta through the Atlanta Student Movement and House Resolution 416, sponsored by Rep. Roger Bruce of the 61st District reads, "Mary Ann went to jail, participated in freedom rides, and consistently led picket lines protesting segregation"; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wilson returned to Atlanta in 1978 and worked as staff pediatrician for the Atlanta Southside Community Health Center, and in 1983, established the North Avenue Medical Clinic where she began private practice; her career in medicine also includes a long tenure with the Fulton County Health Department from 1987 to 2012, where she held several positions including Medical Director of the Fulton County Tuberculosis Program; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wilson is the proud mother of Timiza Woods and Samory Wilson, and grandmother of five and great-grandmother of two;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes, Dr. Mary Ann Smith Wilson for her stellar career in medicine, and for her commitment to the health of countless Atlantans, and does hereby proclaim Friday, August 26, 2022 as "**DR. MARY ANN SMITH WILSON APPRECIATION DAY**" in Fulton County, Georgia.

Fulton County Board of Commissioners

Chair to the Commission

Attest:

Clerk to the Commission

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