

House Resolution 1386

By: Representative Connell of the 115th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring Mrs. Irene Benner Hilley; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Mrs. Irene Benner Hilley was born in Erie, Pennsylvania, on October 24, 1901;
3 and
- 4 WHEREAS, she married Robert D. Hilley of Acworth, and together they moved to Atlanta
5 in 1925; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Hilley lived together for over 50 years in Atlanta and Decatur,
7 where they raised a son and a daughter; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hilley now resides in Augusta with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and
9 Mrs. Gould B. Hagler; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hilley has, in addition to her two children, 11 grandchildren, 23
11 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild; and
- 12 WHEREAS, she is an athlete, being known in her girlhood as "Homerun Benner" and
13 recognized during her adulthood as one of the finest tennis players at the East Lake Country
14 Club; and
- 15 WHEREAS, she contributed to the defense of the United States and to the defeat of the Axis
16 powers by her work at the Bell aircraft factory during World War II; and
- 17 WHEREAS, she is renowned for her prowess at double-solitaire and dominoes, the survivors
18 of these contests telling tales to this very day of her swift hand, keen eye, and acute mind;
19 and

1 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hilley is among the select few to have seen Halley's Comet on two
2 successive trips, 76 years apart; and

3 WHEREAS, she is a world-traveler, having visited every significant nation on earth, and has
4 journeyed to numerous remote locales where only the bravest and most adventurous have
5 dared to tread; and

6 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hilley has imparted to generations of descendents and their spouses her
7 century-long accumulation of knowledge and wisdom and has taught them the value of thrift,
8 generosity, directness, kindness, practicality, good sportsmanship, good citizenship,
9 friendship, resilience, patience, and good humor; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hilley celebrated the one-hundredth anniversary of her birth on October
11 24, 2001, surrounded by loving friends and family.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
13 the members of this body congratulate Mrs. Irene Benner Hilley on the accomplishments of
14 a lifetime and honor her for the contributions she has made to this state and the nation.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
16 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mrs. Irene Benner Hilley.