

## House Resolution 507

By: Representative Hanner of the 159<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Richard M. "Mike" Gennings; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Richard M. "Mike" Gennings began his career as a fisheries biologist with the  
3 Georgia Game and Fish Commission in August 1969 after receiving his Master's degree in  
4 fisheries biology from the University of Oklahoma, and his worth was soon noted when, in  
5 1971, he became the first Regional Supervisor of Fisheries Management for southwest  
6 Georgia with the newly formed Department of Natural Resources, and in 1975 he was  
7 promoted to Assistant Chief of the Fisheries Management Section, and in 1978 he was  
8 promoted again to Chief of Fisheries, a position he has held until his retirement on February  
9 28, 2001; and

10 WHEREAS, during his career, Mike worked with a variety of projects, including the building  
11 of a new office building in Albany which, for the first time, brought together the three  
12 sections of the Game and Fish Division, and he oversaw the development of gear to sample  
13 total fish populations in large rivers, such as the Flint and Altamaha, and his foresight led to  
14 the development of the department's public fishing area program, which has added 103  
15 small lakes, totaling over 1,875 acres of quality fishing habitat for the state's angling public;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Mike also conceived Georgia's highly successful kids fishing events program,  
18 which has provided over 200,000 fishing trips for young Georgia anglers and has introduced  
19 over 50,000 kids to sport fishing, and nationally, Mike has served on the Sport Fishing and  
20 Boating Partnership Council and its National Fish Hatchery Project Steering Committee and  
21 on the Grants-in-Aid Committee of the International Association of Fish and Wildlife  
22 Agencies, and he is recognized as a certified fisheries scientist by the American Fisheries  
23 Society; and

24 WHEREAS, throughout his career, Mike has fostered a highly professional work  
25 environment in the entire Fisheries Management Section, making it one of the most respected

1 professional fisheries organizations in the nation and an excellent example of the dedicated,  
2 professional leadership in Georgia's state government; and

3 WHEREAS, it is only proper that the members of this body recognize and commend Richard  
4 M. "Mike" Gennings upon the event of his retirement from public service.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
6 the members of this body recognize and commend Richard M. "Mike" Gennings for his  
7 many contributions to the citizens of this state and wish him happiness in his retirement.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
9 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Richard M. "Mike"  
10 Gennings.