

Senate Resolution 51

By: Senator Stephens of the 51st

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Expressing regret at the passing of Earl "Buck" Benson, Jr.; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia recently lost one of its finest and most distinguished
3 citizens with the passing of Earl "Buck" Benson, Jr.; and
- 4 WHEREAS, he was an honest and dedicated attorney who strived for excellence in all his
5 endeavors and whose primary fascination with the agrarian lifestyle led him to Ellijay where
6 he founded Cartecay Farms with his wife Joanne; and
- 7 WHEREAS, this beloved gentleman exhibited extraordinary devotion to duty, outstanding
8 loyalty, fine leadership, and meticulous attention to detail in all his duties throughout his
9 career as an attorney in his own practice in Ellijay, serving of counsel to Wilson & Epstein,
10 general counsel to the Professional Association of Georgia Educators, and as counsel to the
11 Ellijay-Gilmer County Water and Sewer Authority, as well as on arbitration and mediation
12 panels for Resolution Resources Corporation and Resolute Systems, Inc.; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Mr. Benson loved gardening and the farming lifestyle, clearing 300 acres on his
14 tractor to make way for cows, horses, hay, and ornamental gardens. His "green thumb" was
15 especially useful in his rose gardens, earning his garden a stop on the garden tour of the Cobb
16 Landmarks Society, when he lived in west Cobb County; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Mr. Benson graduated from the Citadel, obtained two Master of Arts degrees
18 from the University of Georgia, one in political science and the other in history, and earned
19 his law degree from Mercer University. His family credits the Citadel with inspiring his
20 methodical approach to life, touching everything from his work as a mediator to his
21 gardening, instilling discipline to his life, and producing his concern and regard for people
22 and the world; and

1 WHEREAS, he was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Marietta, a Scout leader for
2 Troop 402 of Ellijay, and a member of Rotary; and

3 WHEREAS, this compassionate, complex, and insightful man was not only an outstanding
4 professional, he was also a dedicated husband, loving father to his children and grandson,
5 and mentor to his younger siblings; and

6 WHEREAS, the untimely passing of this generous, kind, and devoted family man leaves an
7 unfillable void in the hearts and lives of his family and friends.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
9 express their deepest and most sincere regret at the passing of Earl "Buck" Benson, Jr.;
10 commend the care, courage, sympathy, and selfless dedication he exhibited in championing
11 the resolution of disputes and making this world a better place to live; and extend to his
12 family their utmost condolences.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
14 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Earl "Buck" Benson, Jr.