

Senate Resolution 843

By: Senators Hall of the 22nd, Cheeks of the 23rd, Johnson of the 1st, Williams of the 19th, Hill of the 4th and others

ADOPTED

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating certain portions of the state highway system; and for other purposes.

2 PART I.

3 WHEREAS, State Route 121 that extends from Augusta to Folkston was established as the
4 Woodpecker Trail in 1947 by the Woodpecker Route Association; and

5 WHEREAS, this historic route extends through ten Georgia counties: Richmond, Burke,
6 Jenkins, Emanuel, Candler, Tattnall, Appling, Pierce, Brantley, and Charlton; and

7 WHEREAS, many people used the Woodpecker Trail in the 1950s and 1960s to travel
8 through the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida on vacation or business; and

9 WHEREAS, in the 1950s, Walter Lantz, creator of the cartoon character Woody
10 Woodpecker, gave permission for the use of his character's likeness on the distinctive signs
11 which were nailed to pine trees to mark the route; and

12 WHEREAS, before the advent of the interstate highway system, the Woodpecker Trail was
13 once billed as the fastest route to Florida's west coast; and

14 WHEREAS, the Woodpecker Trail Association has been revived and is working to promote
15 and enhance the recreational, historical, cultural, agricultural, and environmental features
16 along the trail; and

17 WHEREAS, the development of the Woodpecker Trail will provide a considerable attraction
18 for tourists who want to take a leisurely trip down memory lane and spend time and money
19 along the way and a considerable economic boost to the counties along its path; and

1 WHEREAS, to be successful, the Woodpecker Trail Association needs the cooperation of
2 the Georgia Department of Transportation as well as the residents, business owners, and
3 attractions along the route.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
5 GEORGIA that State Route 121 from the Savannah River at Augusta to the Florida state line
6 is designated as the Woodpecker Trail Highway.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
8 directed to place and maintain appropriate markers or signs designating the Woodpecker
9 Trail Highway.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
11 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the commissioner of transportation.

12 "PART II

13 WHEREAS, the late Max Lockwood served as president and chief executive officer of the
14 U.S. 441 Economic Development Council based in Douglas, Georgia; and

15 WHEREAS, a graduate of Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, he lived in Douglas
16 since 1979 where he served as Mayor; and

17 WHEREAS, he served at various times as a member of the Board of Directors of the Georgia
18 Municipal Association, chairman of the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority, member
19 of the Executive Committee for Georgians for Better Transportation, member of the Board
20 of Directors for the Georgia Regional Development Center, chairman of the Georgia
21 Association of Regional Development Centers, president of the Georgia Chambers of
22 Commerce Executives Association, member of the Board of Directors Executive Committee
23 for the South Georgia Chamber of Commerce, and president of the Douglas Rotary Club; and

24 WHEREAS, he was a Paul Douglas Fellow, received the State Bar of Georgia Liberty Bell
25 Award, was featured on the cover of *Georgia Trend* magazine in recognition of his support
26 of transportation and was listed as a member of *Georgia Trend's* 100 most outstanding
27 Georgians, and received the Liston Elkins Award in 2000.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
29 GEORGIA that the portion of U.S. 441 in the unincorporated areas of Coffee County from

1 the city limits of Douglas northward to the Ocmulgee River bridge is hereby designated as
2 the Max Lockwood Memorial Corridor in memory of this distinguished gentleman, and the
3 Department of Transportation is authorized and directed to erect and maintain signs so
4 identifying the highway.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representative is authorized
6 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of the late Max
7 Lockwood.