

Senate Resolution 736

By: Senator Schaefer of the 50th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Remembering and honoring the life of Mr. J. Alton Wingate, Sr.; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Mr. J. Alton Wingate, Sr., was born in Dougherty County, Georgia, to James  
3 Leonard and Ida Lois Hatcher Wingate on April 8, 1939; and

4 WHEREAS, in the course of a remarkable career that spanned 45 years, Mr. Wingate was  
5 one of the most respected and influential leaders in the banking industry, and among his  
6 many accomplishments, he was Chairman, President, and CEO of Community Bankshares,  
7 Inc., and founder and President of Financial Supermarkets, Inc., parent company of The  
8 Supermarket Bank; and

9 WHEREAS, known in banking circles as the "Father of Supermarket Banking," Mr. Wingate  
10 was a pioneer of in-store banking in both the United States and Europe, opening the first  
11 in-store bank in Cornelia in January 1984; his many innovations and impressive leadership  
12 will be remembered for years to come; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Wingate was a greatly beloved and active member of his community,  
14 participating in numerous civic activities and holding almost every lay leadership position  
15 in the Cornelia United Methodist Church; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Wingate leaves behind his loving and devoted family, including his wife,  
17 Linda Hodgkinson Wingate; his sons and daughters-in-law, Frank and Camille Wingate,  
18 Edward and Idell Wingate, and Joseph Alton "Beau" Wingate, Jr., and Anne Marie; his  
19 brother and sister-in-law, James Stokley and Martha Wingate; his sisters, Veda W. Tison and  
20 Sarah W. Johnson; and his grandchildren, Caroline, Anna Lea, Meredith, Carlin, Elizabeth,  
21 and Joseph Alton Wingate III; and

22 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of its most extraordinary citizens on August 16,  
23 2005, with the passing of Mr. J. Alton Wingate, Sr.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
2 join together in expressing their deepest regret at the passing of Mr. J. Alton Wingate, Sr.,  
3 and extend their most sincere condolences to his family and friends.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
5 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mrs. Linda Hodgkinson Wingate.