

Senate Resolution 779

By: Senators Pearson of the 51st, Rogers of the 21st, Thomas of the 54th, Hill of the 32nd, Shafer of the 48th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Remembering and honoring the life of Noah Harris; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Noah Harris, of Gilmer County, was born on June 25, 1981; and
- 3 WHEREAS, he excelled at school, maintaining an A average from kindergarten through his
4 graduation from Gilmer High School in 1999; he was also highly involved in extracurricular
5 activities, and among his many accomplishments, he had lead roles in nine school plays and
6 received a 1999 drama award, was an Amicalola Electric Washington Youth Tour
7 Representative, a Coca Cola Youth Ambassador to Russia, a member of the Student Senate,
8 and was named as "Mr. Gilmer High School"; and
- 9 WHEREAS, during high school, he lettered in track, wrestling, and football, and served as
10 the captain of the wrestling team and football team; he received several accolades for his
11 athletic prowess, including the 1999 State Wrestling Champion title and the 1999 Golden
12 Helmet Award in Football, and was honored to be named as the 1999 Scholar Athlete for the
13 State of Georgia; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Noah Harris attended the University of Georgia, where he was a member of
15 Sigma Phi Epsilon, the captain of the football cheerleading squad, and was one of 30 students
16 to be chosen to be a member of the University of Georgia's inaugural Earl and Bebe Leonard
17 Leader Scholar Program, which partners with the Gilmer High School Leadership program
18 as a result of his influence; and
- 19 WHEREAS, he spent the summer of 2002 as an intern in Washington, D.C., for United
20 States Representative Nathan Deal; and
- 21 WHEREAS, after September 11, he joined the BullDawg ROTC program and won the
22 Commandant's Award at Fort Lewis, Washington, during the summer of 2003; he was also
23 a member of the Ranger Challenge Team, where he served as an executive officer; and

1 WHEREAS, Noah Harris was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Infantry in January
2 2004, received his platoon, the Wolfpack, that November, and arrived with his battalion in
3 Baquba, Iraq, in January 2005; and

4 WHEREAS, he led his troops in several correspondence programs that resulted in his
5 company giving out thousands of Beanie Babies to the children of Iraq; and

6 WHEREAS, on June 17, 2005, Noah Harris died while returning from a successful combat
7 mission when his humvee was hit by two rocket-propelled grenades; and

8 WHEREAS, Noah Harris was posthumously promoted to 1st Lieutenant and received the
9 Combat Arms Medal, the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the War on Terrorism Service
10 Medal, and the Iraq Campaign Medal; and

11 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia, its citizens, and the members of this body have been
12 greatly moved and saddened at the passing of this courageous, kind, and gifted gentleman,
13 and all Americans mourn his loss and honor the sacrifice he made to defend the liberty of this
14 great nation.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
16 join to remember and honor the life and sacrifice of Noah Harris and extend their most
17 heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
19 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Noah Harris.