

House Resolution 1661

By: Representative Hatfield of the 177<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1   Celebrating the life of Noah Hershel Stokes and dedicating the Hershel Stokes Memorial
- 2   Overpass; and for other purposes.
  
- 3   WHEREAS, Hershel Stokes was born on June 13, 1934; and
  
- 4   WHEREAS, he was educated in the Charlton County School System and graduated from
- 5   Georgia Military College and the University of Georgia with a bachelor's degree in business
- 6   administration; and
  
- 7   WHEREAS, he married Jean Prescott on June 10, 1956, and they had two children, a son,
- 8   Noah, and a daughter, Stacey, and six wonderful grandchildren; and
  
- 9   WHEREAS, he was drafted into the United States Army in December, 1956; and
  
- 10   WHEREAS, Hershel was active in many arenas: he started the BEL-MED Recreation
- 11   Association in Orange Park, Florida; he was an avid fisherman and a Georgia Bulldog fan;
- 12   he was associated with the Toledo Manufacturing Timber Company in Charlton County; he
- 13   served two terms on the Folkston City Council; and he was instrumental in bringing the
- 14   D. Ray James Correctional Facility to Folkston; and
  
- 15   WHEREAS, he was the key person in pushing for the construction of the overpass on SR
- 16   23/121 because he felt it was not safe for emergency vehicles to have to wait on trains to pass
- 17   through town before they could get to the scene of an emergency or return to a hospital; and
  
- 18   WHEREAS, he was a determined person and once he committed to a project he did not stop
- 19   until it was completed; his goal was not recognition but making Charlton County a better
- 20   place to live; and

1 WHEREAS, the state lost a distinguished citizen when Hershel was killed in an automobile  
2 wreck on October 25, 2003; and

3 WHEREAS, it is only fitting that the overpass he worked so hard for to improve emergency  
4 services in Folkston and Charlton County should be named in his memory.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
6 GEORGIA that the overpass bridge on SR 23/SR 121 located near their junction with US  
7 1/US 23, in the City of Folkston, in Charlton County, is dedicated as the Hershel Stokes  
8 Memorial Overpass.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and  
10 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs designating such bridge.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
12 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the family of Hershel Stokes,  
13 the Folkston City Council, and the Department of Transportation.