

Senate Resolution 1425

By: Senators Rogers of the 21st and Stephens of the 27th

### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Dean's Store; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Dean's Store opened in 1906 as Dean Drug Company in a building owned by  
3 William Hiram Dean, a Baptist preacher and physician; and
- 4 WHEREAS, his son, Will L. Dean, also a doctor, had practiced medicine from the  
5 mid-1880's, riding on horseback to see patients. In 1906, due to health issues and no longer  
6 able to ride, he applied for a druggist's license, which still hangs on the wall in the store; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Will died, leaving a widow and six children, and his young son Linton was left  
8 the store, but having no license to fill prescriptions, he sold patent medicines and variety of  
9 other items and services until his death in 1981 at age 95; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Linton was the sole proprietor and employee for 75 years, and his presence  
11 remains to this day on items still on the shelves, file cabinets filled with intriguing notes,  
12 receipts and invoices, account books and ledgers revealing not only items sold and their  
13 value, but the honor system he utilized over the years where customers entered their own  
14 charges in the day ledger; and
- 15 WHEREAS, booklets of Trailways bus tickets remain on one shelf, recalling the more than  
16 25 years that Dean's Store served as a bus station, and other receipts and memos are  
17 reminders that Linton also served as a collection agent for Georgia Power and Southern Bell;  
18 and
- 19 WHEREAS, a visit to Dean's Store is a time travel adventure, including calendars, posters,  
20 hand-held fans advertising funeral homes and businesses, and an assortment of political  
21 campaign buttons; and

1 WHEREAS, Dean's Store recalls a time before television displaying vintage radio floor  
2 models from the 1930's and 1940's; and

3 WHEREAS, in addition to all the other services available at Dean's, Linton was a fixer of  
4 everything from irons, lamps, radios, clocks, and other small electrical and mechanical items,  
5 explaining the presence of an array of cords, sockets, and nonworking radios found in this  
6 eclectic wonderland; and

7 WHEREAS, these treasures survive because of the Dean family commitment to preserve this  
8 bit of history where, upon Linton's death, the family gave door keys to the "fellows," one of  
9 whom is 93 year old Claud Barnes, who now opens the door each morning of operation  
10 keeping the tradition alive as the newly renovated, now designated Woodstock Visitors  
11 Center and presiding over morning visits with "fellows" Bill Johnston, Homer Hughes,  
12 Denver Rainey, Aubry Blackstock, other regulars, and most certainly the spirit of Linton  
13 Dean; and

14 WHEREAS, Dean's Store is known as Woodstock's Treasure with a most appropriate sign  
15 in the window reading "where yesterday lives and tomorrow waits," and it is most fitting and  
16 proper that this body recognize this Woodstock landmark and Georgia treasure as well.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
18 recognize and commend Dean's Store for its special place in the Woodstock community, its  
19 preservation as a landmark and meeting place and extend their most sincere wishes for  
20 another 100 years of existence continuing to preserve the past for future generations of  
21 Georgians.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
23 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Dean's Store.