

Senate Resolution 13 EX

By: Senator Shafer of the 48th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the exceptional life and expressing sorrow upon the tragic passing of Judge  
2 Rowland W. Barnes; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on March 11, 2005, the State of Georgia lost one of its finest and most  
4 distinguished citizens with the passing of Judge Rowland W. Barnes; and

5 WHEREAS, Judge Rowland W. Barnes was born in Cheyenne, Wyoming; he moved to  
6 Takoma Park, Maryland, at the age of nine months and remained there until his mother  
7 remarried a career military man; and

8 WHEREAS, thereafter, he attended eight different schools in five different states, graduating  
9 from Frankfurt American High School in Frankfurt, Germany; and

10 WHEREAS, Judge Barnes started his freshman year of college at Grand Rapids Junior  
11 College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and finished his undergraduate schooling at Lebanon  
12 Valley College in Annville, Pennsylvania; he graduated with a B.S. in economics and  
13 business administration with a minor in history; and

14 WHEREAS, when he was about three-fourths of the way through the requirements for an  
15 MBA at George Washington University, he decided to transfer to law school; he enrolled at  
16 George Washington University Law School for his first year and then earned his degree at  
17 Emory University in Atlanta; he was admitted to the Georgia Bar in November, 1972; and

18 WHEREAS, at different times he was a judge in the superior court, state court, magistrate  
19 court, municipal court, and juvenile court; he presided over cases in Fulton County, Clayton  
20 County, Hall County, Fannin County, Gilmer County, White County, and Pickens County;  
21 and

1 WHEREAS, his first duty as a judge was on the Municipal Court of the City of Hapeville in  
2 1982; after a time as assistant judge, he became the chief judge from 1990 to 1998; and

3 WHEREAS, he was appointed as the chief judge on the Municipal Court of the City of  
4 Fairburn from 1990 to 1998, and he served on the Magistrate's Court of Fulton County as  
5 a part-time magistrate from 1997 to August 5, 1998; and

6 WHEREAS, he was appointed to the Superior Court of Fulton County on August 5, 1998,  
7 by Governor Zell Miller; he was elected to a four-year term in November, 2000; and

8 WHEREAS, he leaves behind his wife, Claudia, his two daughters, Holly and Kiley, and his  
9 four stepchildren; and

10 WHEREAS, he was most proud of the following accomplishments: being elected to Who's  
11 Who in American Colleges and Universities (1962); quarterbacking the Lebanon Valley  
12 College football team that won the only league championship since the school was founded  
13 in 1866; and making it through United States Air Force basic training; he went on to serve  
14 in the National Guard and was called to active duty with the Air Force during the Pueblo  
15 Crisis; and

16 WHEREAS, he has been recognized for his outstanding leadership and his deep personal  
17 commitment to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia and this nation; and

18 WHEREAS, he diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time,  
19 talents, and energy toward the betterment of his state and nation; and

20 WHEREAS, his significant organizational and leadership talents, his remarkable patience  
21 and diplomacy, his keen sense of vision, and his sensitivity to the needs of the citizens of his  
22 state and nation earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and associates; and

23 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
24 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; and

25 WHEREAS, the passing of this generous, kind, and devoted gentleman leaves an unfillable  
26 void in the hearts and lives of his family and friends.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
2 honor the exceptional life and achievements of Judge Rowland W. Barnes and offer its  
3 sincerest condolences to his family and friends upon his untimely and tragic passing.

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 the family of Judge Rowland W. Barnes.