

By: Senator Goggans of the 7th

## A RESOLUTION

2 PART I

5 WHEREAS, he was shot down on November 26, 1943; and

8 WHEREAS, this courageous soldier, in the spirit of the American patriot, confronted the  
9 dangers, privations, and discomforts of wartime service with steadfast resolve, making us as  
0 a nation truly proud; and

14 **PART II**

17 WHEREAS, while serving in Germany, he was killed on April 18, 1945; and

18 WHEREAS, this courageous soldier, in the spirit of the American patriot, confronted the  
19 dangers, privations, and discomforts of wartime service with steadfast resolve, making us as  
20 a nation truly proud; and

1 WHEREAS, all Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the men and women of our armed  
2 forces who risk their lives in the defense of freedom and to secure the blessings of liberty for  
3 this nation and other peoples of the world.

4 **PART III**

5 WHEREAS, SFC Bryant H. Roberts was born on January 30, 1920, and served his country  
6 in 1942, in the United States Navy aboard the U.S.S. Vincennes during World War II; and

7 WHEREAS, he made the ultimate sacrifice for his country in the name of freedom for all  
8 Americans when he was lost at sea in the line of duty; and

9 WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Berrien County deems it fitting and appropriate  
10 to honor the service and sacrifice of SFC Bryant H. Roberts by designating a permanent  
11 public memorial near his homeplace.

12 **PART IV**

13 WHEREAS, Fred L. Belcher was born in November, 1919, and was drafted in 1942 to serve  
14 his country in the Army Air Force during World War II; and

15 WHEREAS, he was captured and held as a prisoner of war in Stalog 17B In Kriems, Austria;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, this great citizen of Berrien County, Georgia, made the ultimate sacrifice while  
18 in service to his country and defending it during time of war; and

19 WHEREAS, this courageous soldier, in the spirit of the American patriot, confronted the  
20 dangers, privations, and discomforts of wartime service with steadfast resolve, making us as  
21 a nation truly proud; and

22 WHEREAS, all Americans owe a debt of gratitude to the men and women of our armed  
23 forces who risk their lives in the defense of freedom and to secure the blessings of liberty for  
24 this nation and other peoples of the world.

25 **PART V**

26 WHEREAS, Mr. John Paul Ellis lives in Hopeulikit, Georgia, with his wife, Beatrice B.  
27 Ellis; and

1 WHEREAS, they have operated a grocery business there since the late 1930s; and

2 WHEREAS, they also ran a farm and raised five children in the community; and

3 WHEREAS, John Paul was a county commissioner in Bulloch County for approximately 25  
4 years; and

5 WHEREAS, he was instrumental in obtaining a four-lane road in the county from Hopeulikit  
6 to Statesboro; and

7 WHEREAS, it is only fitting to honor a man who has devoted so much of his time to serving  
8 his community and the State of Georgia.

9 **PART VI**

10 WHEREAS, Bill Lowery was a dynamic force in the music industry in Georgia for many  
11 years; and

12 WHEREAS, Bill Lowery, through his music publishing and recording company, the Lowery  
13 Group, recorded songs for such artists as Brenda Lee, Billy Joe Royal, Joe South, the Atlanta  
14 Rhythm Section, and Alicia Bridges; and

15 WHEREAS, he was a recognized genius in identifying musical talent and recognizing hit  
16 music; and

17 WHEREAS, he was the first non-performer to be inducted into the Georgia Music Hall of  
18 Fame; and

19 WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to dedicate the section of Clairmont Road between  
20 Buford Highway and Century Plaza Parkway in DeKalb County as the Bill Lowery Parkway  
21 as an appropriate tribute to this giant of the music industry in Georgia.

22 **PART VII**

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
24 GEORGIA that the members of this body dedicate the Hardy Creek Bridge on US 82, in  
25 Berrien County, as the POW Julian Abel Memorial Bridge.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body dedicate the Five Mile Creek  
2 Bridge on SR 168, in Berrien County, as the PFC Elwood W. Odom Memorial Bridge

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body dedicate the Ten Mile Creek  
4 Bridge on SR 168 near Nashville in Berrien County as the MIA/KIA Bryant H. Roberts, SFC  
5 Memorial Bridge.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body dedicate the Withlacoochee  
7 River Bridge on SR 76 west of Nashville, in Berrien County, as the POW Fred L. Belcher  
8 Memorial Bridge.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body dedicate the portion of US  
10 80/SR 26 from Portal to Hopeulikit, in Bulloch County, as the John Paul Ellis Highway.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body dedicate the portion of  
12 Clairmont Road between Buford Highway and Century Plaza Parkway in DeKalb County  
13 as the Bill Lowery Parkway.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and  
15 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the road facilities named in this  
16 resolution.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
18 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the Department of Transportation, to the  
19 family of Julian Abel, to the family of PFC Elwood W. Odom, to the family of Bryant H.  
20 Roberts, to the family of Fred L. Belcher, to John Paul Ellis, and to the family of Bill  
21 Lowery.