

Senate Resolution 1055

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Thomas of the 54th and Tate of the 38th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the accomplishments of Joel A. Katz and dedicating a road in his honor; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Joel A. Katz is considered to be a definitive leader in the field of entertainment
4 law; and

5 WHEREAS, more than 30 years ago, he founded Katz, Smith & Cohen, which became one
6 of the nation's largest entertainment law firms; and

7 WHEREAS, his earliest clients included James Brown and a then unknown Willie Nelson
8 and the client roster grew to include B.B. King, George Strait, Jimmy Buffet, Sheryl Crow,
9 Sammy Hagar, Kenny Chesney, Alan Jackson, James Taylor, Josh Groban, and Brooks and
10 Dunn; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1998, he merged his firm with the international law firm Greenberg Traurig
12 and took on the position of co-managing shareholder of the Atlanta office; and

13 WHEREAS, Katz also serves as a music industry representative for the State of Georgia
14 Film, Video, and Music Advisory Commission, appointed by Governor Sonny Perdue; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1995, he was inducted into the Georgia Music Hall of Fame as the first and
16 only attorney ever to receive that honor; and

17 WHEREAS, in 2002, he received the "Heroes Award" from the Atlanta chapter of The
18 Recording Academy and *Georgia Trend* magazine named him as one of the 100 most
19 influential Georgians; and

20 WHEREAS, Katz received his law degree from the University of Tennessee in 1969 and in
21 1999, the newly constructed law library was named in his honor.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
2 GEORGIA that the members of this body honor the tremendous accomplishments of Joel A.
3 Katz and wish him continued good health and achievement.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the portion of US 41 from West Paces Ferry Road to
5 Moores Mill Road in Fulton County be dedicated as the Joel A. Katz Parkway.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
7 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Joel A. Katz and the Department of
8 Transportation.