

**ADOPTED**

Senator Thompson of the 33rd offered the following amendment:

Amend the committee substitute to SR 1055 by adding on line 22 of page 2:

Celebrating the life of Mason Varner and dedicating a highway in his memory; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, Mason Varner was born on May 8, 1932, in Macland Community. He spent his entire life in Macland, with the exception of four years he spent in the United States Coast Guard. One of his lifelong friends, Clint Carlile, said Mason could not wait to get back to Macland every chance he got while in the service; and

WHEREAS, Mason attended McEachern School and graduated in 1949. Six high school friends and Mason joined the Coast Guard in 1952 for a four-year stint; and

WHEREAS, Mason met Ann Greenway, a teacher at McEachern School, and they were married on March 4, 1956, and had three children, Melinda, Teri, and John. Ann passed away in 2001; and

WHEREAS, after Mason was discharged from service and returned to Macland, he started Varner's Ace Hardware store at the intersection of Macland and New Macland-Lost Mountain Roads. He and Ann operated the store for approximately 20 years. He was a great businessman; and

WHEREAS, Varner's store at Macland became a community institution, and all types of local, state, and national political discussions were held there; and

WHEREAS, fishing was a passion for Mason and he spent many days and nights on a lake with friends, and some of his favorite memories after retirement were from his cabin on Lake Weiss in Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Mason was a lifetime member of McEachern United Methodist Church and supported its many programs. He was also a member of Austell Post #216 of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, Mason passed away on November 13, 2007, surrounded by his children, grandchildren, brother, sister, nieces, nephews, and many friends. It was exactly as he would have wanted it.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the members of this body express their sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Mason Varner upon his passing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a portion of Macland Road, SR 360, from the Paulding County line into Cobb County and ending at John Petree Road be dedicated as the Mason Varner Memorial Highway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mason Varner and the Department of Transportation.