

House Resolution 1651

By: Representative Powell of the 29<sup>th</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

1 Saluting the business, civic, and community success of James Wesley "Jim" Ellis, President  
2 of Jim Ellis Volkswagen, Inc., Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Jim Ellis, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, began his career in the automobile  
4 business in 1960 as an accountant for General Motors, later opened his first automobile  
5 dealership in 1971, and since that time has expanded to nine dealerships in the Atlanta area;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, in 1971 Mr. And Mrs. Ellis invested their life savings in the Volkswagen  
8 dealership and in 1983 Jim Ellis Automotive began an aggressive dealership expansion,  
9 which continues to this day; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Ellis operates with a strong work ethic and spirit of civic duty and his  
11 current Volkswagen dealership was number one in new car sales in the metropolitan Atlanta  
12 market in 2006 and number 36 out of 630 dealerships nationally, and today his many  
13 dealerships employ nearly 700 people in Georgia; and

14 WHEREAS, his business reputation is further evidenced by his receipt of the Consumers  
15 Choice Award in 2004 through 2007, listing in Ward's Magazine Top 10 In Internet Sales  
16 Performance, selection as the 1991 Entrepreneur of the Year by Ernest & Young, Merrill  
17 Lynch, Inc., receipt of the Import Car Dealer of Distinction Award from Sports Illustrated,  
18 Time Magazine's Dealer of the Year Award, and most recently selection by the Ford Motor  
19 Company as one of only nine 2008 Salute to Dealers Honorees in the world; and

20 WHEREAS, his commitment to community is further demonstrated by his membership in  
21 the Atlanta and Greater North Fulton Chambers of Commerce, the Better Business Bureau,  
22 Gwinnett Cancer Society, Gwinnett Hospital Foundation, and Gwinnett Council of the Arts,  
23 and his service as director of the First Security National Bank; and

1 WHEREAS, he has been a faithful member of Norcross First Baptist church and is a new  
2 member of Johns Creek Baptist church, and he is a devoted husband to his wife, Billie  
3 Sammons Ellis, and has been a loving father to their four children Jimmy, the late William,  
4 Karen, and Kristi and a proud grandfather and great-grandfather to their eight grandchildren  
5 and four great grandchildren; and

6

7 WHEREAS, he has been an active member and generous contributor to many civic groups,  
8 foundations, and charitable and political organizations; and

9 WHEREAS, Jim Ellis is an outstanding businessman, civic leader, and public servant and  
10 an integral part of the life of his community and his many contributions to this state are  
11 worthy of commendation.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
13 the members of this body commend Jim Ellis for his valuable contributions to the citizens  
14 of the State of Georgia and congratulate him on being selected as a 2008 Salute To Dealers  
15 Honoree.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
17 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to James Wesley "Jim" Ellis.