

ADOPTED

Senator Mullis of the 53rd offered the following amendment:

1 *Amend the Senate Transportation Committee substitute to HR 468 by inserting between lines*
2 *7 and 8 of page 12 the following:*

3 WHEREAS, Christmas Moultrie was born a slave on Mulberry Grove Plantation on
4 Christmas Day, 1863; and

5 WHEREAS, Christmas Moultrie was the last child born into slavery on Mulberry Grove
6 Plantation; and

7 WHEREAS, Christmas Moultrie lived most of his life on the Plantation as a renowned
8 Savannah River market hunter; and

9 WHEREAS, Christmas Moultrie's expertise as a market hunter is documented in a book
10 entitled *Ward Allen, Savannah River Market Hunter* by John Eugene Cay, Jr., copyright
11 1958; and

12 WHEREAS, Mulberry Grove Plantation was where President George Washington stayed
13 during his only visits to Georgia in the 1790's as the guest of Catherine Greene, the widow
14 of the Revolutionary War hero, General Nathaniel Greene; and

15 WHEREAS, Christmas Moultrie's grave is located outside Port Wentworth, Georgia, in
16 historic Cherokee Hill Cemetery; and

17 WHEREAS, it is only fitting that the life of Christmas Moultrie be memorialized by
18 dedicating an interchange in his honor.

19 **PART XIX**

20 WHEREAS, portions of U.S. Highways 129, 78, and 278 and State Routes 47, 77, and 22
21 pass through historically significant regions of this state, especially with regard to Georgians
22 who were leaders in the American Civil War; and

23 WHEREAS, recognizing and promoting the historical significance of this region could
24 promote economic development through tourism.

PART XX

1
2 WHEREAS, during the summer of 1864, six hundred Federal officers, prisoners of war, were
3 placed in a residential area of Charleston, South Carolina, which was being shelled by
4 Federal guns, night and day, since August of 1863; and

5 WHEREAS, in retaliation for erroneously alleged abuse of these Federal prisoners by
6 Confederate authorities, on August 25, 1864, six hundred Confederate prisoners of war were
7 selected from those confined at Fort Delaware to be used as human targets; and

8 WHEREAS, the six hundred Confederate prisoners were placed in a pine-wood stockade
9 immediately in front of a military target, Battery Wagner, occupied by Federal artillery; and

10 WHEREAS, after 45 days of exposure to Confederate fire, there being no casualties, the
11 Federal authorities decided to move the Confederates to Fort Pulaski in Georgia; and

12 WHEREAS, while at Fort Pulaski, the remnant of the six hundred who had been determined
13 to be physically able to be moved were fed wormy corn meal, pickles, and limited amounts
14 of water. The men were intentionally starved. Clothing and blankets were withheld as well
15 as firewood for warmth. It was one of the coldest winters in Georgia in many years; and

16 WHEREAS, the Confederates were consistently promised "fair" treatment if they would sign
17 the oath of allegiance to the United States. These men had sworn an oath of allegiance to the
18 Confederate States of America, their country, and the war was still being waged. They
19 endured abuse that is hard to imagine; and

20 WHEREAS, upon completion of the War Between the States and the release of what was left
21 of the six hundred by July 24, 1865, their story was being told by survivors and witnesses.
22 They became known as "The Immortal Six Hundred" for their courage, strength, and fidelity
23 to their country in the face of brutal retaliation for an alleged abuse that did not exist; and

24 WHEREAS, in 1876, the *Southern Historical Society Papers* contained the following
25 statement by Captain George W. Nelson of the Hanover Artillery of Virginia in honor of The
26 Immortal Six Hundred:

27 "The consequence of all this was that the prisoners died like sheep. Whatever the
28 immediate cause of their death, that cause was induced by starvation, and over the
29 dead bodies of nine-tenths of those brave, true men there can be given but one true
30 verdict: 'Death by starvation.'"

PART XXI

By inserting after line 28 of page 13 the following:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body honor the life of Christmas Moultrie by dedicating the entire north and south interchange at I-95 and SR 21 in Port Wentworth, Georgia, as the Christmas Moultrie Interchange.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that U.S. 129 from Gainesville to Jefferson to Athens; U.S. 78 from Athens to Lexington to Washington; SR 47 from Washington to Crawfordville; SR 77 from Lexington to Union Point; U.S. 278 from Union Point to Crawfordville; and SR 22 from Lexington to Philomath to Crawfordville to Sparta to Milledgeville are dedicated as the Civil War Heartland Leaders Trail.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and directed to erect and maintain 28 signs identifying the Civil War Heartland Leaders Trail, dispersed throughout the course of the trail, with not less than two signs in each county through which the trail or a portion thereof passes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the portion of the road at the intersection of US 80 and County Road 228 (Fort Pulaski Road) for one-half mile in each direction on US 80 be dedicated as The Immortal Six Hundred Memorial Highway.

By deleting line 13 of page 14 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Baldwin counties, to the family of Lt. Carl Kelly, and to the North Port Wentworth Citizens Council.