

House Resolution 1675

By: Representative Floyd of the 99th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Barbara and Richard Gay; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Barbara and Richard Gay were united in love and marriage in 1957 and have
3 devoted their time, talents, and energy to improving the lives of others through their
4 leadership and generosity; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Gay served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the
6 United States Army, demonstrating great bravery and courage during the Korean and
7 Vietnam wars and retiring from service as a lieutenant colonel in 1971; and

8 WHEREAS, on August 2, 1974, Mr. and Mrs. Gay became operators of the Helendorf River
9 Inn, and their dedication to the City of Helen over the past three decades is representative of
10 the strength and persistence that personifies Helen and its residents; and

11 WHEREAS, devoted to improving tourism in Helen, the Gays have represented the city and
12 region in numerous travel shows, attended seminars and training session on the tourism
13 industry, and served several terms on the board of directors for the Helen Chamber of
14 Commerce; and

15 WHEREAS, Mrs. Gay has held leadership positions with the Helen Dining and Lodging
16 Association, the Helen/White County Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Georgia Mountain
17 Travel Association, and the Georgia Hospitality and Travel Association; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Gay served with the Helen Volunteer Fire Department from 1979 to 1993,
19 helping to organize the department, keep property insurance costs low, and serving as Alpine
20 Helen's first fire chief in the 1970's; and

21 WHEREAS, the Gays have served as civic stewards, with Mr. Gay participating in the
22 Knights of Columbus and the Clarkesville Lions Club and Mrs. Gay in the Mayflower

23 Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, the National Rifle Association, and the
24 Soque Garden Club; and

25 WHEREAS, ballooning pioneers and enthusiasts, the Gays were honored by the Balloon
26 Federation of America for contributions to the sport and were recognized by the Helen Arts
27 & Heritage Council for their 36 year sponsorship of the annual Helen to the Atlantic Hot Air
28 Balloon Race; and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Gay's many outstanding achievements and contributions to the
30 City of Helen are worthy of recognition.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body commend Barbara and Richard Gay for their efficient, effective,
33 unselfish, and dedicated service to others.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
35 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. and Mrs. Gay.