

## House Resolution 241

By: Representatives Hugley of the 133<sup>rd</sup>, Smyre of the 132<sup>nd</sup>, Smith of the 129<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 131<sup>st</sup>, and Buckner of the 130<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the interchange at Interstate Highway 85 and St. Mary's Road in Muscogee  
2 County as the "George W. Ford, Jr. Interchange"; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of her great trailblazers and a mighty advocate in  
4 George W. Ford, Jr.; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Ford was a native son of Columbus, Georgia, who was among the first 200  
6 African American men to serve in the Marine Corps and who, after his service in World War  
7 II, became a highly respected member of the Civil Rights movement; and

8 WHEREAS, he inspired fellow African Americans by lighting a torch to follow his example  
9 in such leadership roles as cofounding the Urban League of Greater Columbus, serving as  
10 president of the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People branch,  
11 and acting as a voice of reason and builder of bridges in his community; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Ford was the founder and president emeritus of Progressive Funeral Home  
13 and served with distinction as a member of the board of directors for both Aflac and the  
14 Columbus Bank and Trust Company; and

15 WHEREAS, the work of this mentor, friend, and teacher was honored with the Jim  
16 Woodruff, Jr., Memorial Award in 2003; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Ford's actions have paved the way for so many others, and his legacy will  
18 live on in future generations of Georgians.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
20 GEORGIA that the interchange at Interstate Highway 85 and St. Mary's Road in Muscogee  
21 County be designated as the "George W. Ford, Jr. Interchange," and the Department of

22 Transportation is authorized and directed to erect and maintain signs so identifying the  
23 bridge.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
25 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the Department of  
26 Transportation and the family of Mr. George W. Ford, Jr.