

House Resolution 242

By: Representative Davis of the 109th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the lives of William Raleigh Cook and Mamie Steele Cook and dedicating a lasting
2 memorial in their memory; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, William Raleigh Cook was born in Henry County, Georgia, on July 4, 1888,
4 and passed away on August 30, 1957; and

5 WHEREAS, Mamie Leona Steele was born in Henry County, Georgia, on October 5, 1893,
6 and passed away on July 19, 1971; and

7 WHEREAS, they were married in Henry County on December 18, 1912, and set up a
8 homestead at Little Cotton Indian Creek and Decatur Road (now Ga. Hwy 155); and

9 WHEREAS, they farmed the local area and lived on Little Cotton Indian Creek throughout
10 their lives, and they served as managers of the historic Shingleroof Campground Hotel in
11 the 1920's and 1930's; and

12 WHEREAS, they were lifelong members at nearby Salem Baptist Church and greeted and
13 met travellers along Decatur Road for nearly a century; and

14 WHEREAS, the ancestors of both William and Mamie Cook were among the earliest white
15 settlers of Henry County, Georgia, including John Cook who settled in Henry County after
16 serving in the War of 1812 and also including veterans of the Civil War and the Spanish
17 American War. These ancestors lived in the area around Little Cotton Indian Creek along
18 Decatur Road; and

19 WHEREAS, the descendants of William and Mamie Cook include four generations of Henry
20 County residents, many of whom still reside on and near the original homestead. Their
21 number includes decorated veterans of the Second World War, the Korean War, and the
22 Vietnam Conflict. Additionally, many of these descendants have served Henry County as

23 successful businesspersons, academics, horse and cattle ranchers, real estate developers, and
24 professionals in banking, technology, healthcare, and engineering; and

25 WHEREAS, it is only proper and fitting that a lasting memorial be dedicated to the memory
26 of William and Mamie Cook.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
28 GEORGIA that the members of this body honor the lives of William Raleigh Cook and
29 Mamie Steele Cook and dedicate the bridge on SR 155 at Little Cotton Indian Creek as the
30 William R. and Mamie Steele Cook Memorial Bridge.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
32 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the William R. and Mamie Steele
33 Cook Memorial Bridge.

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 the family of William R.
36 and Mamie Steele Cook and to the Department of Transportation.