

## Senate Resolution 165

By: Senators Balfour of the 9th, Unterman of the 45th and Shafer of the 48th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and accomplishments of Forrest Laughlin Adair II and dedicating a bridge  
2 in his memory; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, although he considered himself an Atlanta native, Forrest Laughlin Adair II  
4 was born in 1941 in Birmingham, Alabama; and

5 WHEREAS, after graduating from Riverside Military School, he attended Georgia Tech and  
6 later graduated from Georgia State with a business degree in real estate; and

7 WHEREAS, Forrest did not accept Jack Adair's offer of employment in the family business,  
8 Adair Realty; instead, he felt compelled to be responsible for his own destiny, so he joined  
9 The First National Bank of Atlanta in 1962; and

10 WHEREAS, but real estate was his true calling, so in 1982, he partnered with Virgil and Jim  
11 Williams to form Williams Adair Equity Corp. and later, Williams Adair Realty Corp.; and

12 WHEREAS, over the next several decades, he directed the construction, purchase, and sale  
13 of over one million square feet of diversified product, including office parks, strip shopping  
14 centers, and mid-rise suburban office buildings; and

15 WHEREAS, he was always concerned with the impact of real estate on the community, as  
16 evidenced by his participation in civic organizations, such as The Gwinnett Council for  
17 Quality Growth - Past President, The Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce, The Evermore CID,  
18 NAIOP, the Commercial Board of Realtors, and others too numerous to name; and

19 WHEREAS, real estate was in his blood; Forrest Laughlin Adair II was the 4th generation  
20 of an Atlanta real estate family, and his great-great-grandfather, Colonel George Adair, was  
21 commonly referred to as the Father of Atlanta for his work rebuilding Atlanta after the Civil  
22 War; Colonel Adair's motto was, "To be reliable is a fortune"; and

23 WHEREAS, Forrest's legacy is visible throughout Gwinnett County; he had a hand in all  
24 types of projects, including apartments, office buildings, office parks, and shopping centers;  
25 but land development projects were his favorite, as evidenced by his ATM pin number  
26 "DIRT"; and

27 WHEREAS, walking a property in consideration of future development was his favorite real  
28 estate activity; however, his most important legacy was the development of young men; and

29 WHEREAS, he was keenly aware of the challenges that face today's youth, and he believed  
30 in building character in young men through the lessons and challenges of youth sports; he  
31 coached baseball and football for over 30 years, and although some teams included his sons,  
32 most of his time was spent pro bono for the children of others; he was known for  
33 chauffeuring boys whose parents could not provide transportation and for building  
34 self-confidence and teaching accountability; and

35 WHEREAS, he loved real estate, but his true legacy can be seen in the faces of all he  
36 touched, and it is only fitting and proper that a lasting memorial to this life well lived be  
37 established.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
39 GEORGIA that the members of this body honor the outstanding accomplishments of Forrest  
40 Laughlin Adair II and dedicate the bridge on US 78, the Stone Mountain Freeway, at Park  
41 Place in Gwinnett County, as the Forrest Laughlin Adair II Memorial Bridge.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and  
43 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Forrest Laughlin Adair II  
44 Memorial Bridge.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
46 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Forrest Laughlin Adair II  
47 and the Department of Transportation.