

## Senate Resolution 308

By: Senators Thompson of the 33rd and Stoner of the 6th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring William Austin Atkins, Sr., and dedicating a bridge in his honor;  
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, William Austin Atkins, Sr., born in Tate, Georgia, on August 16, 1933, to  
4 Austin and Gladys Atkins, has been recognized in the 24th Edition of Who's Who in the  
5 World as worthy of recognition along with notable leaders and achievers from all walks of  
6 life, whose contributions have made a lasting impact on the political, cultural, business, and  
7 academic frameworks of America and the world; and

8 WHEREAS, this esteemed member of the House of Representatives from 1982 to 1994  
9 served his constituents well as a member of the Appropriations, Regulated Beverages, and  
10 Industry Committees; and

11 WHEREAS, his bachelor of science degree in pharmacy from Mercer University was of  
12 great use to him as the Director of the Drugs and Narcotics Agency of the State of Georgia,  
13 a position which he retired from in 2008; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Atkins possesses a wide range of talents and abilities which include being  
15 lead vocalist of the Bill Atkins Band; and

16 WHEREAS, this devoted husband and father of two children and two stepchildren still finds  
17 time to be involved in his community through his service to the First United Methodist  
18 Church on the administrative board, to Mercer University School of Pharmacy on the board  
19 of directors, Brawner Hospital on the governing board, and Smyrna Hospital on the  
20 long-range planning board; and

21 WHEREAS, he honorably served his country in the United States Army Medical Service  
22 Corps from 1955 to 1957; and

23 WHEREAS, others have recognized his talents and contributions by honoring him with  
24 awards such as the Smryna/Oakdale Moose Lodge in 1993 with the "Mr. Cobb County"  
25 award; the Cobb County Clean Commission in 1992 with the "One of a Kind Award"; Cobb  
26 County in 1992 with the Statesman of the Year award; American Cancer Society in 1991  
27 with the Recipient Appreciation plaque; Personal Care Homes of Georgia in 1991 with the  
28 Legislator of the Year Friendship Award; and the Cobb County Bar Association in 1991 with  
29 the Liberty Bell Award; and

30 WHEREAS, in addition to the Pharmacist of the Year in Georgia award he received from Phi  
31 Delta Chi in 1978, he has also received numerous awards throughout the years for his  
32 dedication and service to the pharmacy profession; and

33 WHEREAS, Bill Atkins is a shining example of the important impact that the efforts of one  
34 individual can have on the citizens of his community, his state, his country, and even the  
35 world, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that his superlative accomplishments be  
36 recognized by the dedication of a bridge in his name in honor of his accomplishments.

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
38 GEORGIA that the members of this body join in recognizing and honoring William Austin  
39 Atkins, Sr., for his outstanding service to his community and to the State of Georgia and  
40 dedicate the bridge over I-75 North at Windy Hill Road, in Cobb County, as the William  
41 Austin Atkins, Sr. Bridge.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and  
43 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the William Austin Atkins, Sr.,  
44 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 William Austin Atkins, Sr., and the  
47 Department of Transportation.