

House Resolution 514

By: Representatives Parrish of the 156th, Tankersley of the 158th, Burns of the 157th, Ehrhart of the 36th, Walker of the 107th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. William I. Griffis on the occasion of his retirement; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. William I. Griffis has long been recognized by the citizens of this state for
4 the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the
5 welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, he has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time,
7 talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state as evidenced
8 dramatically by his superlative service with the Georgia Southern University Foundation; and

9 WHEREAS, a graduate of Georgia Southern University, Mr. Griffis began his career as a
10 manager with Fuller & DeLoach Certified Public Accountants in 1969; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Griffis served as president and CEO of the T.J. Morris Company and as an
12 investor and financial consultant before returning to his alma mater in 2001 as director of
13 development and president of the Georgia Southern University Foundation; and

14 WHEREAS, since 2004, Mr. Griffis has served as Georgia Southern's vice president for
15 University Advancement and president of the Georgia Southern University Foundation; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Griffis has been recognized with numerous honors and accolades, including
17 the Georgia Southern University COBA Alumnus of the Year, Georgia Society of CPAs
18 Outstanding Member in Industry Award, Lay Leader of the Year from Georgia Recreation
19 and Parks Society, and was named a Paul Harris Fellow for Rotary International; and

20 WHEREAS, his significant organizational and leadership talents, his remarkable patience
21 and diplomacy, his keen sense of vision, and his sensitivity to the needs of the citizens of this
22 state have earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and associates; and

23 WHEREAS, he is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for
24 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Griffis has served with honor and distinction with Georgia Southern
26 University and his vision and unyielding commitment will be sorely missed upon the
27 occasion of his retirement; and

28 WHEREAS, he is wished a happy retirement, where he is sure to enjoy spending more time
29 with his supportive wife of 42 years, Eileen, and his children and grandchildren.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body commend Mr. William I. Griffis for his efficient, effective,
32 unselfish, and dedicated public service to Georgia Southern University; congratulate him
33 upon the grand occasion of his retirement; and extend to him their most sincere best wishes
34 for continued health and happiness.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. William I. Griffis.