

House Resolution 572

By: Representative Jasperse of the 12th

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the life of Jimmy (Lou) Chastain and dedicating a bridge in his memory; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Jimmy (Lou) Chastain was a retired employee of the Georgia Department
4 of Transportation where he was the District Engineer, covering Pickens, Cherokee, Gilmer
5 and Fannin Counties; and

6 WHEREAS, he was born in 1957 and was only 53 years of age when he passed away on
7 April 20, 2010; and

8 WHEREAS, his friends and colleagues remembered Lou's life with comments like: "He was
9 a man of his word," "He noticed everyone and gave them importance," "He was honest," and
10 "He always spoke the truth."; and

11 WHEREAS, two of his favorite sayings were, "The truth will stand when the world is on
12 fire," and "When you're telling the truth, you can talk as loud as you want."; and

13 WHEREAS, he was a man who did not judge people; he accepted everyone at face value and
14 then encouraged them to do their best; he acted not out of self-interest, but for the greater
15 good of the people around him; and

16 WHEREAS, Lou would take time out to help anyone, at any time; if he sensed help was
17 needed, he jumped in; and

18 WHEREAS, he retired from the Georgia Department of Transportation in January 2009 as
19 the D6-A2 Area Engineer; upon retirement, he went to work with Moreland Altobelli, where
20 Lou worked closely with the Whitfield County Board of Commissioners and in the short time
21 that Lou worked with them, the commissioners were so impressed with him that they
22 presented a resolution in his honor at their May, 2010, meeting; and

23 WHEREAS, Lou left behind his wife, Tracey, daughter, Mallory, and mother, Eleese; and

24 WHEREAS, ever since his death, friends and co-workers have been considering appropriate
25 ways to memorialize him and since the bridge over Talking Rock Creek on SR 136 was one
26 of the last projects that Lou worked on as a GDOT Area Engineer, and is in the area where
27 Lou grew up and over the creek that he fished in as a youth, it seems appropriate to have the
28 bridge named in his honor.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
30 GEORGIA that this body joins in celebrating the life of Jimmy (Lou) Chastain and dedicates
31 the bridge over Talking Rock Creek on SR 136 in Pickens County as the Lou Chastain
32 Memorial Bridge.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
34 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Lou Chastain Memorial
35 Bridge.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the family of Lou Chastain
38 and the Department of Transportation.