

Senate Resolution 843

By: Senator Mullis of the 53rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of Mr. Bert Ward and dedicating a bridge in his memory; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Bert Ward was born on May 30, 1922, in Catoosa County, Georgia, was
4 educated in the Catoosa County public school system, and graduated from Ringgold High
5 School; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Ward served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the
7 United States Navy, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans during
8 World War II on the *USS Gillis* and the *USS Williamson* in the Pacific; and

9 WHEREAS, he sustained injuries during his service when his ship was torpedoed by
10 Japanese submarines in the North Pacific; and

11 WHEREAS, upon returning home after the war, Mr. Ward continued his public service as
12 Catoosa County Tax Commissioner, diligently and conscientiously devoting innumerable
13 hours of his time, talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state for
14 19 years; and

15 WHEREAS, he was elected to represent Catoosa County as a State Representative in the
16 Georgia General Assembly in 1967 and 1968; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Ward served as a judge in Catoosa County for several years before he was
18 elected to serve on the Board of Commissioners of Catoosa County; and

19 WHEREAS, as a member of the Board of Commissioners, Mr. Ward was instrumental in
20 establishing procedures, policies, and rules and regulations of the board and helped in the
21 establishment of the county's 911 emergency response system and the naming of the Catoosa
22 Parkway; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Ward's significant organizational and leadership talents, his remarkable
24 patience and diplomacy, his keen sense of vision, and his sensitivity to the needs of the
25 citizens of this state earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and associates;
26 and

27 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments and
28 service of this remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL
30 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the bridge on Catoosa Parkway over Tiger Creek in
31 Catoosa County is dedicated as the Bert Ward Memorial Bridge.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
33 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Bert Ward Memorial Bridge.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
35 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the family of Bert Ward and
36 to the Department of Transportation.