

House Resolution 1465

By: Representative Harden of the 28th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of Mr. Thomas R. "Tommie" Irvin and dedicating an intersection in his
2 memory; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Thomas R. "Tommie" Irvin was a seventh generation Georgian who
4 attended high school in Habersham County, where he was a talented athlete and member of
5 the football, basketball, and baseball teams; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Irvin served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the
7 United States military during World War II, achieved the rank of sergeant in Company K
8 245th infantry Regiment 63rd Division, and was decorated with a bronze star, good conduct
9 medal, World War II victory medal, and occupation medal; and

10 WHEREAS, upon his return from the war, Mr. Irvin found his passion in car racing and
11 raced on the famed Daytona Beach road course and Soldiers Field in Chicago before
12 becoming the 16th member of NASCAR in the late 1940s; and

13 WHEREAS, an inductee in the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame, he won his biggest race in
14 1955 at Lakewood Speedway in Atlanta and opened the Banks County Speedway, which
15 became the starting place for many young drivers who later became famous; and

16 WHEREAS, a passionate coon hunter, Mr. Irvin won the World Championship for coon
17 hunting in 1973, and he raised many Redbone Coonhounds that became show and hunting
18 champions; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Irvin was a dedicated public servant, devoting his time and energy to the
20 Georgia Department of Agriculture for 34 years before his retirement from his position as
21 head of the Equine Division; and

22 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Sara Alice, and he was blessed
23 with four children, Yvonne, Bruce, Bobby, and Danny; seven grandchildren; and seven
24 great-grandchildren; and

25 WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that the life and memory of Mr. Irvin be
26 appropriately recognized.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL
28 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that this body hereby joins in honoring the life and memory of
29 Mr. Thomas R. "Tommie" Irvin and dedicates the intersection of Highway 441 and Apple
30 Pie Ridge Road in Banks County as the Tommie Irvin Memorial Intersection.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
32 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Tommie Irvin Memorial
33 Intersection.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
35 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the family of Mr. Thomas R. "Tommie"
36 Irvin and to the Department of Transportation.