

## House Resolution 655

By: Representatives Wilkinson of the 52<sup>nd</sup>, Willard of the 51<sup>st</sup>, Geisinger of the 48<sup>th</sup>, and Lindsey of the 54<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Dr. William Coppedge Collins; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
3 with the passing of Dr. William Coppedge "Bill" Collins on February 25, 2013; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Dr. Collins was born in Forsyth, Monroe County, Georgia, on July 24, 1937,  
5 a beloved son of Annie Joy and George Reece Collins; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Dr. Collins was a proud member of Boy Scout Troop 51 in Forsyth and attained  
7 the rank of Eagle Scout; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he began his long journey of education at Mary Persons High School where he  
9 was editor of the school paper; co-captain and Most Outstanding Lineman of the football  
10 team; star of many a singing and dramatic performance; State President of the Georgia Beta  
11 Club, through which he met the love of his life, Jan Williams, at a state convention; and  
12 valedictorian of the Class of 1955; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Dr. Collins was the first recipient of the General Motors Scholarship, which  
14 allowed him to begin his inspiring college career at the University of Georgia, where he was  
15 a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity and a number of honors societies before he graduated  
16 with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1959; and
- 17 WHEREAS, he earned his medical doctorate degree from the Medical College of Georgia  
18 in 1962 before he went on to complete his training with an internship at Floyd Hospital in  
19 Rome, Georgia, military service in the United States Air Force, 1360th Hospital, an  
20 orthopedic residency at Georgia Baptist and Scottish Rite hospitals, and a hand surgery  
21 fellowship at Duke University Medical Center; and

22 WHEREAS, Dr. Collins served in many distinguished roles in the medical community,  
23 including president of the Medical Association of Georgia, chairman of the Medical  
24 Association of Atlanta, cochairman of the Academy of Medicine Restoration Committee, and  
25 chief of staff of the Atlanta Outpatient Surgery Center; and

26 WHEREAS, he helped to form MAG Mutual Insurance Company, which is now one of the  
27 largest medical professional liability insurers in the country; and

28 WHEREAS, Dr. Collins was united in love and marriage to his wife of 53 years, Jan  
29 Williams Collins, and the two were blessed with two remarkable children, Courtenay and  
30 William "Chip," Jr., and six precious grandchildren; and

31 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
32 for integrity, intelligence, service, fairness, and kindness and, by the example he made of his  
33 life, he made this world a better place in which to live.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
35 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Dr. William Coppedge  
36 Collins and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
38 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Dr. William  
39 Coppedge Collins.