

House Resolution 753

By: Representative Powell of the 32nd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. George M. Rooks, Jr.; 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 Mr. George M. Rooks, Jr., on February 28, 2013; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mr. Rooks graduated from Hartwell High School in 1943 before he entered The
5 Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina, serving as a cadet for two years before entering the
6 service in World War II; and
- 7 WHEREAS, after Mr. Rooks graduated from The Citadel in 1948, he returned to Hartwell,
8 where he was employed in the family business, the Hartwell Coca-Cola Bottling Company,
9 of which he eventually became CEO and COO; and
- 10 WHEREAS, his common sense approach and business acumen contributed immensely to the
11 economic growth of the Hartwell community; and
- 12 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Mr. Rooks was an active member of Hartwell
13 First Baptist Church, where he served on the board of deacons as a member and chairman
14 and taught Sunday school for 60 years; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Mr. Rooks was united in love and marriage to his college sweetheart, the late
16 Mrs. Miriam Bailey Rooks, and was blessed with two remarkable sons, George M. Rooks III
17 and Mark C. Rooks, two wonderful grandsons, George M. Rooks IV and John Brendan
18 Rooks, and four cherished great-grandchildren; and
- 19 WHEREAS, he was elected to the Hartwell City Council in 1985, where he served for 20
20 years as a member and mayor pro tem, and he wrote the city ordinance making Hartwell a
21 "City of Ethics" and was instrumental in changing the form of city government to city
22 manager; and

23 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern
24 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his
25 family and friends were admired by others; and

26 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
27 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness and, by the example he made of his life, he
28 made this world a better place in which to live; and

29 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. George M. Rooks, Jr., will long be
30 remembered for his love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father, grandfather,
31 great-grandfather, businessman, and friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune
32 of knowing him.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. George M. Rooks, Jr.,
35 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. George
38 M. Rooks, Jr.