

House Resolution 1458

By: Representatives Welch of the 110th, Strickland of the 111th, Rutledge of the 109th, Yates of the 73rd, Knight of the 130th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mr. James F. Risher, Jr., for his service in the United States Armed Forces and
2 for the book he wrote and inviting James F. Risher III to be recognized by the House of
3 Representatives and to hand out his father's book to all its members; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
5 with the passing of Mr. James F. Risher, Jr., on July 22, 1986; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. James F. Risher, Jr., was born on May 8, 1916, in Smoaks, South Carolina;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, he earned his bachelor's degree in English from the Citadel, the military college
9 of South Carolina, in 1938 and a master's degree from the University of South Carolina; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Risher was united in love and marriage with Florence "Betty" Kahrs in
11 1941; and

12 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
13 States Army as an infantry officer, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow
14 Americans when serving with the Thirty-Sixth, Eighty-Fourth, and Fourth Infantry Division
15 during World War II as a B-17 Bomber pilot in the Eighth Air Force, 401st Bombardment
16 Group (Heavy), and he flew 32 combat missions; and

17 WHEREAS, upon returning home from combat duties, he served as a radar pilot instructor,
18 an assignment at the Pentagon with United States Air Force Headquarters, and the
19 Thirty-Sixth Fighter Wing in Panama and Germany during the Allied occupation; and

20 WHEREAS, while in Germany, he became the executive officer for the 7499th Composite
21 Squadron; he served another United States Air Force Headquarters assignment as head of the

22 manpower statistics office, and from 1954-1958 he was a professor of air science (ROTC)
23 at North Carolina State University; and

24 WHEREAS, this was followed by a tour as deputy director of the 8313th Air Base Wing at
25 Kadena, Okinawa, and the air force director of ground safety at Norton Air Force Base,
26 California; his last assignment was with the Aerospace Studies Institute, Air University,
27 Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama; and

28 WHEREAS, following his military career, Colonel Risher and his wife moved to Atlanta,
29 Georgia, where he worked for Coastal States Insurance Company and the Georgia Safety
30 Council for several years; and

31 WHEREAS, during his military career, Colonel Risher authored several professional studies
32 and articles in air force publications; he is the author of *Interview With Honor*, a story of the
33 famous Burr-Hamilton duel; and

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

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

40 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. James F. Risher, Jr., will long be
41 remembered for his love of family and friendship and his service to our great nation, and he
42 will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
44 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. James F. Risher, Jr.,
45 express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing, commend him for his
46 outstanding dedication and courageous service in the military, and invite James F. Risher III
47 to be recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time designated by the
48 Speaker of the House of Representatives and to hand out his father's book to all members.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
50 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. James F.
51 Risher, Jr.