

House Resolution 1544

By: Representative Roberts of the 155<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of Major Henry Talmage Elrod and dedicating a road in his memory; and  
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of its finest citizens and leaders with the passing  
4 of Major Henry Talmage Elrod; and

5 WHEREAS, Major Elrod was born on September 27, 1905, in Turner County, Georgia, and  
6 attended the University of Georgia and Yale University; and

7 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United  
8 States Marine Corps, valiantly and courageously defending his fellow Americans during  
9 World War II; and

10 WHEREAS, Major Elrod single handedly attacked a flight of 22 enemy planes over Wake  
11 Island and executed several low altitude bombings and strafing runs on enemy ships; and

12 WHEREAS, he became the first American to sink a Japanese warship, the *Kisaragi*, with  
13 small caliber bombs delivered from a fighter aircraft; and

14 WHEREAS, when all the U.S. aircraft had been destroyed by hostile fire, Major Elrod  
15 organized the remaining troops into a beach defense unit which repulsed repeated Japanese  
16 attacks; and

17 WHEREAS, Major Elrod was mortally wounded on December 23, 1941, while protecting  
18 his men who were carrying ammunition to a gun emplacement; and

19 WHEREAS, Major Elrod exhibited extraordinary devotion to duty, outstanding loyalty, fine  
20 leadership, and meticulous attention to detail in all his duties, and it is abundantly fitting and  
21 proper that a road be dedicated in his honor.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL  
23 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the portion of State Route 112 from Rebecca to Ashburn  
24 in Turner County is dedicated as the Major Henry Talmage Elrod Memorial Highway.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and  
26 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Major Henry Talmage Elrod  
27 Memorial Highway.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
29 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the family of Major Henry  
30 Talmage Elrod and to the Department of Transportation.