

## House Resolution 1730

By: Representatives Rogers of the 29<sup>th</sup>, Hawkins of the 27<sup>th</sup>, Dunahoo of the 30<sup>th</sup>, and Barr of the 103<sup>rd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. George C. Pickard; 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 C. Pickard on October 26, 2013; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mr. Pickard was born in Durham, North Carolina, a beloved son of the late
- 5 Alfred A. and Margaret Killough Pickard; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
- 7 States Coast Guard, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans during
- 8 World War II on the *USS Leonard Wood* and participating in several of the biggest invasions
- 9 in the Pacific, including Eniwetok, Leyte, Saipan, and Mindanao; and
- 10 WHEREAS, he attended North Carolina State College, where he was active in the Future
- 11 Farmers of America and won the First Premium Blue Ribbon for a calf he raised, and later
- 12 transferred to the University of North Carolina, where he obtained a bachelor's degree in
- 13 education; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Mr. Pickard volunteered as a firefighter with the Chapel Hill Fire Department
- 15 and developed a lifelong passion for fire fighting and fire engines which led him to work as
- 16 a regional representative for the American LaFrance fire engine manufacturer; and
- 17 WHEREAS, when delivering a new fire engine to a station in the Gainesville area, Mr.
- 18 Pickard was known to take the children from his neighborhood to get ice cream and to school
- 19 in the fire engine before delivering it to a station; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Mr. Pickard served as fire chief in Decatur, an instructor at the Georgia Fire
- 21 Academy, and he ended his career as the owner and operator of Pickard Fire Engine Repair
- 22 of Gainesville; and

23 WHEREAS, he was known throughout the Southeast as being especially good at diagnosing  
24 and fixing problems in a fire engine pump, and in 2013, he was named as an honorary fire  
25 chief of the Gainesville Fire Department; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Pickard was united in love and marriage to his wife, Louise, for 55  
27 wonderful years and was blessed with the support of his children, Sarah Pickard, Vicki  
28 Brewer and James D. Lester, and Larry A. and Jane Bailey Brewer; four grandchildren; and  
29 seven great-grandchildren; and

30 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. Pickard will long be remembered for  
31 his love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father, grandfather, brother, and  
32 friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune 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 C. Pickard and  
35 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 C. Pickard.