

House Resolution 1730

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

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.