

## Senate Resolution 1253

By: Senators Shafer of the 48th, McKoon of the 29th, Chance of the 16th, Staton of the 18th, Bethel of the 54th and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Howard "Bo" Callaway; 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 Howard "Bo" Callaway; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Bo Callaway, 86, who helped his parents create the Callaway Gardens resort  
5 near Pine Mountain, passed away March 15, 2014, nearly two years after suffering a cerebral  
6 hemorrhage; and
- 7 WHEREAS, his death marks the end of an era that saw him become, in 1964, this state's first  
8 Republican congressman since Reconstruction, and almost the first Republican Governor two  
9 years later; and while he never returned to elected office, veteran Georgia Republicans say  
10 he never stopped working to grow the party; and
- 11 WHEREAS, in 1966, Bo Callaway ran against Lester Maddox; he actually won 3,000 more  
12 votes than Maddox, but because former Governor Ellis Arnall mounted a write-in campaign,  
13 no candidate received the majority needed to win; and
- 14 WHEREAS, state law at the time did not allow for a general election runoff; instead, the  
15 Georgia legislature was allowed to choose the next governor, and the Democratic-controlled  
16 machine backed Lester Maddox; and
- 17 WHEREAS, he sued to overturn the decision but lost a challenge before the United States  
18 Supreme Court; the law was later changed, but Bo Callaway's moment had passed, and no  
19 Republican was elected Governor until Sonny Perdue in 2002; and
- 20 WHEREAS, there was much more to him than politics, however; a Korean War veteran, Bo  
21 Callaway later served as Secretary of the Army and, after moving to Colorado, was chairman  
22 of the Republican Party there; and

23 WHEREAS, his most lasting mark on Georgia, however, was his service in the family  
24 business; Callaway Gardens opened in 1952 and is a 13,000 acre slice of Georgia countryside  
25 that is home to the world's largest azalea display, a huge butterfly conservatory, and a  
26 renowned vegetable garden, as well as a manmade beach resort; and

27 WHEREAS, Bo Callaway was united in love and marriage to Beth, who passed away in  
28 2009, and was blessed with five remarkable children; and

29 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, he will long be remembered for his love  
30 of family and friendship, and this loyal gentleman and friend will be missed by all who had  
31 the great fortune of knowing him.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
33 join in honoring the life and memory of Howard "Bo" Callaway and express their deepest  
34 and most sincere regret at his passing.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
36 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Howard "Bo" Callaway.