A RESOLUTION

Honoring the life and memory of Michael "Mike" Edward Zaldo; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens with the passing of Michael "Mike" Edward Zaldo on February 18, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Mike Zaldo was born on August 26, 1966, at West Point, New York, the beloved son of Colonel William T. Zaldo III and Ellen Zaldo and, as the middle child, was known as "the frosting in the Oreo, which is the best part of the cookie after all"; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Robinson Secondary School in 1984 where he was an exceptional soccer and tennis player, and attended Kansas State University, graduating in 1990 with a bachelor's degree in architecture; and

WHEREAS, though he worked in architecture for a short time, Mike always saw things through the "eye of an architect," knowing exactly what little change to a building could make the most important difference or how to appreciate subtle beauty in things others took for granted; he used his knowledge of architecture and natural leadership style to work in the field of concrete construction for more than 20 years; and

WHEREAS, from 1993 through 1997, while working for the Virginia Ready Mix Concrete Association full time, Mike also volunteered as an Emergency Medical Technician and ran rescue for the Tuckahoe Volunteer Rescue Squad; and

WHEREAS, Mike met his wife, Tracy, in June, 1996, and the two were engaged within six months and married in Atlanta, Georgia, on April 12, 1997; throughout their 17 years of marriage, Mike and Tracy lived in both Suwanee and Sugar Hill, Georgia, and were blessed with a daughter, Mary Grace, and a son, Sam, and Mike's beloved dog, Jack; and
WHEREAS, despite his rigorous professional travel schedule, Mike made every effort to attend extracurricular activities for his kids; whether it was cheering Sam on at baseball games or supporting Mary Grace in her chorus concerts or pageants, he was on the sidelines offering support; and

WHEREAS, during college, Mike was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes and throughout his life worked diligently with his family and friends to raise money and awareness for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation; and

WHEREAS, he became very involved with Camp Kudzu, a camp for children with Type 1 Diabetes, volunteering as a camp counselor, medical technician, and eventually as head staff support person; and

WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Mike was an active member of St. Benedicts Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, Mike is survived and dearly missed by other members of this family, including: his parents, Colonel William T. Zaldo III and Ellen Mary Ragan Zaldo; his sisters, Jacqueline Zaldo Hampton and Ragan Zaldo Cheney; his parents-in-law, Hardy and Donna Johnson; his brothers-in-law, Nathan "Eric" Hampton, Dr. Fred Cheney, and Marcus Johnson; his sister-in-law, Julie Johnson; his nephews, Nathan "Nate" Joel Hampton, Davis William Cheney, and Jacob Kyle Johnson; and his nieces, Madison Johnson and Annika Caroline Cheney; and

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

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

WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mike will long be remembered for his love of family and friendship, and this loyal gentleman and friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Michael "Mike" Edward
Zaldo and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Michael
"Mike" Edward Zaldo.