

Senate Resolution 54

By: Senators Hill of the 4th and Stone of the 23rd

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of James "Jimmy" Morgan; 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 James "Jimmy" Morgan on March 8, 2014; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Jimmy was born on April 26, 1913, in Memphis, Tennessee; and
- 5 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United  
6 States armed forces, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans during  
7 World War II, and he reached the rank of Captain; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he graduated with a degree in architecture from Georgia Tech in 1934 and  
9 became the owner and president of Franklin-Overstreet & Company, Inc., a successful  
10 Ford-Lincoln-Mercury dealership; and
- 11 WHEREAS, he served as president of the Georgia Automobile Dealers Association and won  
12 the Dealer of the Year Award from *Time*; and
- 13 WHEREAS, he was a co-founder of the Swainsboro Country Club and Emanuel Arts  
14 Council and founded the Pine Tree Festival of which he served as chairman in 1948; and
- 15 WHEREAS, he served as chairman of the Board of Citizens Bank, the Swainboro Housing  
16 Authority, the Swainsboro Planning Division, and the Emanuel County Hospital Board; and
- 17 WHEREAS, he served on the Georgia Council for the Arts and partnered with Bill Rogers  
18 in the operation of the *Swainsboro Forest-Blade*, for which he wrote a weekly column for  
19 almost 20 years; and

20 WHEREAS, he helped develop the Swainsboro Airport and served as the executive director  
21 of the Mill Creek Foundation since its founding in 1986, overseeing the dispersion of many  
22 philanthropic actions, notably supporting East Georgia College; and

23 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Jimmy taught at the Jimmy Morgan Sunday  
24 School Class for more than 52 years; and

25 WHEREAS, he was united in marriage to Gaynelle Franklin Morgan from 1937 until her  
26 passing and married Jean Anderson Fournier after meeting her at a press conference at the  
27 White House; and

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

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

34 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Jimmy will long be remembered for his  
35 love of family and friendship, and he will be missed by all who had the great fortune of  
36 knowing him.

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
38 join in honoring the life and memory of James "Jimmy" Morgan and express their deepest  
39 and most sincere regret at his passing.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
41 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the family of James  
42 "Jimmy" Morgan.