

## House Resolution 529

By: Representatives Beskin of the 54<sup>th</sup>, Ralston of the 7<sup>th</sup>, Taylor of the 79<sup>th</sup>, Werkheiser of the 157<sup>th</sup>, Rynders of the 152<sup>nd</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Michael Joseph Egan, Jr., for his many years of dedicated public service to the  
2 State of Georgia and the United States and inviting him to be recognized by the House of  
3 Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Michael Joseph Egan, Jr., was born on August 8, 1926, in Savannah, Georgia,  
5 a beloved son of Michael Joseph Egan and Elise Robider; and

6 WHEREAS, he graduated from Portsmouth Priory School in Portsmouth, Rhode Island,  
7 before earning his bachelor's degree from Yale University and his law degree from Harvard  
8 University Law School; and

9 WHEREAS, he valiantly and courageously served his fellow Americans as a second  
10 lieutenant in the United States Army, serving in the 86th Infantry Division in the Philippines  
11 from 1945-1947 and in the Second Infantry Division in Korea from 1950-1952; and

12 WHEREAS, Mike Egan was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives in 1966, one  
13 of the first Republicans elected to that body after the antiquated county unit election system  
14 was stricken down; and

15 WHEREAS, he became House Minority Leader in 1971, in which position he called for the  
16 adoption of legislation to open up the closed-door practices of the majority leadership; and

17 WHEREAS, President Jimmy Carter named Mike Egan an associate attorney general under  
18 Griffin Bell in the Justice Department, where Egan served from 1977-1979 before he  
19 returned to Atlanta, Georgia, and resumed practicing law; and

20 WHEREAS, Mike Egan was the chief reporter of an American Law Institute-American Bar  
21 Association handbook on the federal estate and gift tax, and he taught a course on that  
22 subject at Emory University's School of Law; and

23 WHEREAS, he won a special election to the Georgia Senate in 1989 and served in that body  
24 through its 2000 session, and he was respected by Republicans and Democrats alike and was  
25 often called "the conscience of the Senate" by his Republican colleagues; and

26 WHEREAS, during his final legislative session, Mike Egan sponsored a bill to ensure that  
27 girls would have the same opportunities as boys to play sports in public schools and  
28 introduced a bill that would remove the Confederate battle emblem from the state flag; and

29 WHEREAS, Mike Egan was one of the first people appointed to the Metropolitan North  
30 Georgia Water Planning District by Governor Roy Barnes in 2001, and he also served on the  
31 board of the Trust for Public Land; and

32 WHEREAS, Mike Egan was a member of the State Code Revision Commission, the  
33 Recreational Authorities Overview Committee, the Atlanta-Fulton Library Foundation, and  
34 the Georgia Wilderness Institute; and

35 WHEREAS, he is united in love and marriage to Donna Cole, and the loving couple is  
36 blessed with six amazing children, Moira, Michael III, Donna, Cole, Roby, and John, and 15  
37 incredible grandchildren; and

38 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Mike and his wife, Donna, are active members  
39 of the Cathedral of Christ the King; and

40 WHEREAS, Mike Egan is known to be a man of his word and is admired by many for his  
41 steadfast courage, conviction, and ability, and this dedicated public servant has made  
42 innumerable contributions to the State of Georgia and the United States; and

43 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this admirable public servant be  
44 recognized by this body.

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
46 the members of this body commend Michael Joseph Egan, Jr., for his many years of  
47 dedicated public service to the State of Georgia and the United States and invite him to be  
48 recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the  
49 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
51 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to  
52 Michael Joseph Egan, Jr.