

## Senate Resolution 623

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Williams of the 19th, Jones of the 25th, Harbison of the 15th, Shafer of the 48th and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Gerald Theodore Bryant; 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 Gerald Theodore Bryant on March 22, 2015; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Gerald was born on March 22, 1946, in Louisville, Kentucky, a beloved son of  
5 Ted and Lelia Bryant and younger brother to Deana; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Gerald Bryant, a true asset to the State of Georgia, served as Executive  
7 Producer at Georgia Public Broadcasting and as managing editor of *Lawmakers*, Georgia  
8 Public Broadcasting's coverage of the Georgia General Assembly, which Georgians  
9 throughout the state depend upon to keep them informed of the latest issues being addressed  
10 under the Gold Dome; and
- 11 WHEREAS, with more than 37 years of experience, Gerald Bryant's many accolades include  
12 13 regional Emmys, a New York Film Festival Silver Medal, a national Headliner award,  
13 two Gabby awards from the Georgia Association of Broadcasters, and two international  
14 awards from the Broadcast Promotion Association; and
- 15 WHEREAS, after graduating from the University of Louisville in 1969, Gerald Bryant  
16 served as a photographer, reporter, producer, assistant news director, and promotion director  
17 for an NBC network affiliate and was also a movie critic, promotion director, and executive  
18 news producer for the CBS and ABC affiliates in Louisville; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Gerald Bryant, his wife Sharon, and their daughter Erin moved to Atlanta,  
20 Georgia, in 1981, where he worked at Turner Broadcasting as a senior producer, and in 1984  
21 he began working at Georgia Public Television; and

22 WHEREAS, he has received an Iris award, an Owl award, and the Georgia Association of  
23 Educators' School Bell award and has been recognized by the *Associated Press*; and

24 WHEREAS, while in Louisville, he produced television coverage of court-ordered busing  
25 that won the Edward R. Murrow Award; and

26 WHEREAS, the Society of Professional Journalists has acknowledged Gerald Bryant's work  
27 at the Green Eyeshade awards in 2001 and 2002, and he was honored with the 2003 History  
28 in the Media award presented by the Georgia Historical Society for his work on the  
29 documentary, *Georgia's Civil War*; and

30 WHEREAS, the Southeast Region of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences  
31 honored his long and distinguished career by inducting him into the esteemed Silver Circle;  
32 and

33 WHEREAS, Gerald Bryant was a talented mentor for young journalists and aspiring  
34 television professionals, and he trained numerous interns on the set of *Lawmakers*, helping  
35 them to improve their writing skills, hone their journalistic instincts, and present news in a  
36 balanced and unbiased manner; and

37 WHEREAS, he provided an exceptional service to the State of Georgia and showed  
38 inspirational dedication to the mission of the fourth estate and the spirit of democracy, and  
39 his magnanimous presence will be sorely missed; and

40 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this body express gratitude for his  
41 objectivity in his coverage of the Georgia General Assembly and for his intense friendship  
42 that did not compromise his professionalism.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
44 join in honoring the life and memory of Gerald Theodore Bryant and express their deepest  
45 and most sincere regret at his passing.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
47 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of  
48 Gerald Theodore Bryant.