

Senate Resolution 711

By: Senators Beach of the 21st, Mullis of the 53rd, Millar of the 40th, Miller of the 49th, Gooch of the 51st and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. A. Paul Wood upon the grand occasion of his retirement;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. A. Paul Wood is a native of Natchitoches, Louisiana, and earned his
4 bachelor's degree in marketing from Northwestern State University in Natchitoches,
5 Louisiana; and

6 WHEREAS, he served his country honorably as a Captain in the United States Army
7 Airborne Special Forces and the Louisiana National Guard; and

8 WHEREAS, he started his career in electric cooperatives in 1965 at East Central Oklahoma
9 Electric Cooperative and was appointed General Manager of Dixie EMC in Baton Rouge,
10 Louisiana, in 1977; and

11 WHEREAS, he served as Executive Director of the Association of Louisiana Electric
12 Cooperatives, Inc., from 1983 to 1997, at which time he moved to Georgia to become
13 President and CEO of Georgia EMC; and

14 WHEREAS, he has served in numerous leadership roles within the electric cooperative
15 industry, including as President of the Rural Electric Statewide Managers' Association and
16 as a member of the Touchstone Energy Board of Directors, the National Rural Electric
17 Cooperative Association (NRECA) Management Advisory committee, NRECA Procedures
18 committee, NRECA Unity Task Force, and NRECA Health Care Task Force; and

19 WHEREAS, he currently serves Georgia as chairman of the Georgia Tourism Foundation
20 and as a member of the Department of Economic Development Board of Directors, the
21 Georgia Corporation for Economic Development, the FDR Warm Springs Memorial
22 Advisory Committee, the Go Build Georgia Educational Foundation, and the Board of
23 Governors of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce; and

24 WHEREAS, he has held numerous positions appointed by Governors over the past 18 years,
25 including as a member of the Georgia Competitiveness Initiative Steering Committee in
26 2011, a member of the Governor's Water Advisory Committee in 2009, Chairman of the
27 Commission for a New Georgia's Service Delivery Task Force in 2007, and Co-chairman of
28 the Governor's Conference on Tourism in 2004; and

29 WHEREAS, he is a recipient of the prestigious Green Jacket Award from Georgia 4-H, a
30 high honor granted by one of the state's oldest and most successful youth development and
31 training programs, and is a member of the 4-H Board of Trustees; and

32 WHEREAS, he is a recipient of the Honorary American FFA Degree, the highest honor
33 bestowed upon a nonmember of the FFA for contributions and service to agriculture,
34 agricultural education, and the FFA on the local, state, and national levels; and

35 WHEREAS, he was recognized by the Ferst Foundation in 2010 with the CEO Reader of the
36 Year Award; and

37 WHEREAS, he has penned a monthly column in *GEORGIA Magazine* called "Viewpoint"
38 for more than 16 years that was published as a book compilation of almost 100 columns
39 entitled *It's My View*, and all proceeds benefit the Georgia EMC Foundation; and

40 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to Suzanne Dalme' Wood on January 30,
41 1965, and is blessed with two remarkable sons, Jason and Chris, and a beautiful
42 granddaughter, Mikaila; and

43 WHEREAS, he suffered the heartbreaking loss of Suzanne, his spouse of 44 years, in 2009,
44 and six years later he was blessed with a new partner in life and marriage, Conny Wood.

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
46 recognize and commend Mr. A. Paul Wood for his outstanding service to the electric
47 cooperative industry, congratulate him upon the grand occasion of his retirement, and extend
48 to him their most sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
50 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Mr. A. Paul Wood.