

House Resolution 1368

By: Representatives Rogers of the 29th, Dunahoo of the 30th, Hawkins of the 27th, and Barr of the 103rd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. Jack Harrington Elrod, Jr.; 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 Mr. Jack Harrington Elrod, Jr.; and
- 4 WHEREAS, a native of Gainesville, Georgia, and a 1941 graduate of Gainesville High
5 School, Mr. Elrod served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
6 States Navy, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans during World War
7 II by serving as a meteorologist aboard the USS Teton; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he enrolled in art school and in 1950 began working as a cartoonist with Ed
9 Dodd on the famed "Mark Trail" comic strip from their Sandy Springs studios; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Mr. Elrod became the sole cartoonist in 1978 upon the retirement of Mr. Dodd
11 and continued the strip until his retirement in 2014 at age 90; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Mr. Elrod worked with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
13 the National Weather Service, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on public
14 awareness, fire prevention, and environmental conservation campaigns and was honored with
15 the "Take Pride in America" award from President Reagan and the "Golden Smokey" award
16 from the United States Forest Service; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Mr. Elrod received due credit and national acclaim when Congressman Ed
18 Jenkins legislatively designated 16,000 acres of the Chattahoochee National Forest, including
19 a portion of the Appalachian Trail, as the "Mark Trail Wilderness Area" in 1991; and
- 20 WHEREAS, the designation is a tribute to Mr. Elrod's 64 year history with Mark Trail,
21 teaching millions of readers, through newspaper syndications, about environmental and

22 safety concerns, confirming his genius as an artist and his love for the American outdoors;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, he was a loving husband and blessed with four remarkable children, one
25 daughter and three sons; and

26 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. Elrod will long be remembered for his
27 love of family and friendship and will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing
28 him.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. Jack Harrington Elrod,
31 Jr., and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
34 family of Mr. Jack Harrington Elrod, Jr.