

Senate Resolution 1129

By: Senators Tippins of the 37th, Hill of the 6th, Thompson of the 14th, Hill of the 32nd,
Tate of the 38th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. Joe Kirby; 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. Joe Kirby on October 30, 2015; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mr. Kirby, a native of Washington, D.C., earned a degree in history and
5 communications from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, in 1977; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he began his career as a general assignment reporter for the Toccoa-based
7 *Chieftain*, moving to the *Roswell Neighbor* in 1986 and the *Marietta Daily Journal* in 1987,
8 and his conservative ideals were often reflected in his editorials; and
- 9 WHEREAS, after developing his writing skills at the *Marietta Daily Journal* for five years,
10 he was named the editorial page editor in 1992, a position that he held for 23 years until his
11 passing; and
- 12 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his beautiful wife, Fran, and was blessed
13 with two remarkable children, Lucy and Miles; and
- 14 WHEREAS, he served as a mentor to countless young reporters, he gave inspiration to many
15 through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern for his fellow citizens, and the devotion,
16 patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his family and friends were admired by
17 others; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Mr. Kirby received numerous awards from the Georgia Press Association and
19 the Associated Press, including the Green Eye Shade Award from the Society of Professional
20 Journalists and the Liberty Bell Award, given by the Cobb County Bar Association; and

21 WHEREAS, he was a great student of history who conducted a number of tours to Europe
22 to visit World War II sites, and he was the author of four books about Marietta, the Bell
23 Bomber Plant, and Lockheed Martin; and

24 WHEREAS, he was deeply committed to his community as evidenced by his involvement
25 as a member of the Marietta Kiwanis Club, a board member of Symphony on the Square, and
26 a board member of the Marietta Museum of History; and

27 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Joe Kirby will long be remembered for his
28 love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father, and friend will be missed by all
29 who had the great fortune of knowing him.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
31 join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. Joe Kirby, and express their deepest and most
32 sincere regret at his passing.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
34 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of Mr.
35 Joe Kirby.