

Senate Resolution 1224

By: Senator Tippins of the 37th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Melville William "Bill" Kinney, 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 Melville William "Bill" Kinney, Jr., on February 20, 2016; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Kinney was born June 6, 1924, in Vinings and was a delivery boy for the  
5 *Marietta Daily Journal* and a stringer for the weekly *Cobb County Times (Times)*, covering  
6 Marietta High School's sports while he attended school himself; and

7 WHEREAS, he graduated from Marietta High School in 1941, and worked in the public  
8 relations department of the Bell Bomber factory during World War II before moving to a full  
9 time position for the *Times* under the founding publisher, Otis A. Brumby, Sr., where he  
10 quickly worked his way up to become an editor; and

11 WHEREAS, after the *Times* acquired the *Marietta Daily Journal (MDJ)* in the early 1950s,  
12 Mr. Kinney served as an editor of the *MDJ* and as its editorial page editor; and

13 WHEREAS, he wrote thousands of columns and handled many of the paper's largest sales  
14 accounts; it was said that he knew everything there was to know about Cobb County, any  
15 candidate for office in Cobb County had to know him in order to win, and he knew where  
16 all of the political bodies were buried and whose fingerprints were on the shovel; and

17 WHEREAS, he was a member, and sometimes chairman, of the Business and Public Affairs  
18 Committee and held a 60-year perfect attendance record in the Marietta Kiwanis Club, which  
19 played a key role in the founding of Kennesaw Junior College (now Kennesaw State  
20 University) and the move of Southern Polytechnic State University from DeKalb to Cobb  
21 County; and

22 WHEREAS, he served on the Marietta Housing Authority, the City Recreation Committee,  
23 was a long term member of the Marietta Museum of History, an honorary member of the  
24 Marietta Rotary Club, and was named Cobb Citizen of the Year; the *Atlanta Business*  
25 *Chronicle* named him one of Cobb's Most Influential Citizens, and he received a  
26 commendation from the Georgia General Assembly for his lifetime achievements; and

27 WHEREAS, Mr. Kinney will be missed by all who knew him and remembered as a  
28 newspaperman extraordinaire, a loyal friend, an honest and insightful critic, an astute  
29 observer of all things political, an unrepentant and unabashed advocate of all things Cobb  
30 County, and truly a sport model in the finest sense of the word.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
32 join in honoring the life and memory of Melville William "Bill" Kinney, Jr., and express  
33 their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
35 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of  
36 Melville William "Bill" Kinney, Jr.