

House Resolution 254

By: Representatives Ballinger of the 23rd, Ralston of the 7th, Caldwell of the 20th, Carson of the 46th, Cantrell of the 22nd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Sheriff Roger D. Garrison; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Sheriff Roger D. Garrison, born in Habersham County, Georgia, graduated from
3 Reinhardt University with a bachelor's degree in business and from Columbus State
4 University with a master's degree in public administration; and

5 WHEREAS, Sheriff Garrison began his law enforcement career with the Canton Police
6 Department, joined the Cherokee Sheriff's Office in 1981, and became a State Ranger with
7 the Georgia Department of Natural Resources in 1983; and

8 WHEREAS, he was elected Sheriff of Cherokee County in 1992, serving until December 31,
9 2016, making him the longest serving sheriff in Cherokee County history; and

10 WHEREAS, Sheriff Garrison increased the training requirements of the deputies to double
11 the standards mandated by the State of Georgia and required command staff officers to
12 receive 60 hours of executive training annually; and

13 WHEREAS, Sheriff Garrison increased the agency's number of law enforcement instructors,
14 many of whom hold specialized certifications, to more than 60 and created a multiagency
15 training program to ensure all law enforcement officers serving inside Cherokee County
16 receive the same quality instruction regardless of jurisdiction; and

17 WHEREAS, Sheriff Garrison increased the education level of the Cherokee Sheriff's Office
18 by providing 110 officers with the opportunity to complete the Professional Management
19 Program through the Law Enforcement Command College, and through a partnership with
20 Reinhardt University, more than 60 officers completed a bachelor's degree and 26 officers
21 completed a master's degree in public administration at Columbus State University through
22 the Law Enforcement Command College; and

23 WHEREAS, Sheriff Garrison is a 1996 graduate of the FBI National Academy and a
24 graduate of the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Program, the National
25 Sheriff's Institute, and the Regional Leadership Institute in Atlanta, and he holds an
26 Executive Certification from the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council; and

27 WHEREAS, Sheriff Garrison currently serves as the Board Chairman of the Peace Officers'
28 Annuity and Benefit Fund, on the Board of Corrections, and on the Executive Board of the
29 Atlanta High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area; and

30 WHEREAS, Sheriff Garrison has been involved in civic activities for the past 20 years,
31 serving as a board member of the American Cancer Society and as a member of the Chamber
32 of Commerce, Cherokee Council on Child Abuse, Cherokee Multi-Agency Narcotics Squad,
33 *Georgia Trend* 40 under 40, A-Day for Reinhardt, and the Fulton County Courthouse
34 Security Task Force; and

35 WHEREAS, Sheriff Garrison has raised \$475,122 for Sheriff Roger Garrison Charities to
36 benefit local charities, including Meals on Wheels, Boys and Girls Club, Cherokee CASA,
37 and the Anna Crawford Children's Center; and

38 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
39 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
41 the members of this body honor Sheriff Roger D. Garrison for his effective and dedicated
42 public service to his community and the State of Georgia.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
44 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
45 Sheriff Roger D. Garrison.