

## House Resolution 1456

By: Representatives Hatchett of the 150<sup>th</sup>, Nimmer of the 178<sup>th</sup>, Morris of the 156<sup>th</sup>, Parrish of the 158<sup>th</sup>, and Burns of the 159<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of James Lester "Jim L." Gillis, 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 James Lester "Jim L." Gillis, Jr.; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Jim L. was born on October 2, 1916, lived in Treutlen County his entire life,  
5 and was a banker, timberman, cattleman, and farmer; and
- 6 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Jim L. was an active member of First Baptist  
7 Church of Soperton, where he was a member of the men's Bible class; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his first wife, the late Katherine Hudmon,  
9 and was blessed with four remarkable children, Marianne, Margaret, Kate, and James; ten  
10 wonderful grandchildren, G. Odgen, Jim, Katherine, Laura, Mary, John, James, Alan,  
11 Margaret, and James; and 12 incredible great-grandchildren; and
- 12 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his second wife, the late Augusta Smith  
13 Woodcock, in 2001; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Jim L. played an active role in conservation throughout his life, holding  
15 numerous positions and appointments and receiving many awards, including past director  
16 and president of the American Turpentine Farmers Association; president of the Georgia  
17 Forestry Association; appointments to the Georgia Forestry Commission; an honorary  
18 member of the Society of American Foresters, which awarded him its Golden Membership  
19 Award; and he was inducted into the Georgia Foresters Hall of Fame; named the 1960  
20 Outstanding Conservationist of Georgia; and received the 1961 Georgia Citizen of the Year  
21 Award; and

22 WHEREAS, he was a major figure in the business community and devoted hours of his time  
23 to civic and community service work as a commissioner of Treutlen County, a Lions Club  
24 member, a volunteer with Boy Scouts of America, and serving one term in the State Senate  
25 and five years as mayor of Soperton; and

26 WHEREAS, Jim L. gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep  
27 concern for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he  
28 demonstrated to his family and friends were admired by others; and

29 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
30 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he made of his life, he  
31 made this world a better place in which to live; and

32 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Jim L. will long be remembered for his  
33 love of family and friendship and will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing  
34 him.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
36 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of James Lester "Jim L."  
37 Gillis, Jr., and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
39 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
40 family of James Lester "Jim L." Gillis, Jr.