

Senate Resolution 63

By: Senators Miller of the 49th, Unterman of the 45th, Burke of the 11th, Watson of the 1st, Kirk of the 13th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of James Harold Shepherd, Sr., cofounder of the Shepherd
2 Center; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
4 with the passing of James Harold Shepherd, Sr., on December 10, 2018; and

5 WHEREAS, James Harold Shepherd, Sr., was born on April 15, 1928, in Atlanta, Georgia,
6 a beloved son of William and Mabel Shepherd; and

7 WHEREAS, as young men, Harold and his brothers started the Shepherd Construction
8 Company, and for the past six decades they oversaw the construction of hundreds of miles
9 of interstate highways in Georgia and several surrounding states, as well as thousands of
10 miles of city and county streets; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1975, Harold founded the Shepherd Center with his wife, Alana; their son,
12 James; and Dr. David F. Apple; and

13 WHEREAS, what started as a six-bed rehabilitation unit is now a world-renowned 152 bed
14 research and rehabilitation facility spread across three campuses; and

15 WHEREAS, for all his accomplishments, he considered building the Shepherd Center with
16 his family to be his finest, and he was recognized with several awards for his service and
17 dedication; and

18 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Alana, and was blessed with two
19 remarkable children, James, Jr., and Thomas; three wonderful grandchildren, Julie, James
20 III, and Thomas, Jr.; and four amazing great-grandchildren, James IV, Josephine, Virginia,
21 and Annie; and

22 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern
23 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his
24 family and friends were admired by others; and

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

28 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Harold will long be remembered for his
29 love of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who had the great
30 fortune of knowing him.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 join in honoring the life and memory of James Harold Shepherd, Sr., and express their
33 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 James Harold Shepherd, Sr.