

Senate Resolution 67

By: Senators Anderson of the 24th, Stone of the 23rd, Miller of the 49th, Dugan of the 30th, Henson of the 41st and others

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Dedicating certain portions of the state highway system; and for other purposes.

2 **PART I**

3 WHEREAS, Senator William "Bill" S. Jackson has long been recognized by the citizens of
4 this state for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment
5 to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, he diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time,
7 talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state as evidenced
8 dramatically by his decades of public service; and

9 WHEREAS, a graduate of Evans High School in Columbia County, Senator Jackson founded
10 a tile and stone distribution company, Tile Center, Inc., in 1961 in Augusta which has grown
11 to include four other locations in Georgia and South Carolina; and

12 WHEREAS, his service as past president of the Merchants Association of Columbia County
13 and Martinez-Evans Jaycees, past region president of the Georgia Jaycees, and past national
14 director of the U.S. Jaycees is further testimony to his commitment to public service; and

15 WHEREAS, he was elected to serve as chairman on the Columbia County Board of
16 Education prior to serving as director of the Georgia School Boards Association; and

17 WHEREAS, Senator Jackson was elected as a representative to the Georgia House of
18 Representatives, where he served for 16 years as a member of numerous influential
19 committees, including the House Committees on Industry and Labor, Trade and Tourism,
20 Natural Resources and the Environment, and Special Judiciary; and

21 WHEREAS, his leadership continued with his service on the State Board of Corrections and
22 upon his election to the Georgia Senate in 2007, where he represented District 24 for ten
23 years as Secretary of the Rules Committee and as a member of the Appropriations,
24 Administrative Affairs, Ethics, Public Safety, Reapportionment and Redistricting, and State
25 Institutions and Property committees and served as floor leader for Governor Nathan Deal
26 for six years; and

27 WHEREAS, he has earned distinction and numerous awards and accolades, including a 2006
28 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce; and

29 WHEREAS, Senator Jackson's significant organizational and leadership talents, his
30 remarkable patience and diplomacy, his keen sense of vision, and his sensitivity to the needs
31 of the citizens of this state have earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and
32 associates; and

33 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished
34 Georgian be recognized appropriately by dedicating an interchange in his honor.

35 **PART II**

36 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackie Holder has long been recognized by the citizens of this state for the
37 vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the welfare
38 of the citizens of Georgia; and

39 WHEREAS, he has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time,
40 talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state as evidenced
41 dramatically by his decades of public service; and

42 WHEREAS, Mr. Holder was elected as the sole county commissioner for Bleckley County
43 in 1976, a position he proudly maintained until 1998; and

44 WHEREAS, during his tenure as county commissioner, Bleckley County experienced great
45 economic and employment growth, with increases to the county tax base and operating
46 revenues for the county; and

47 WHEREAS, Mr. Holder's leadership was instrumental in the remodeling of the county jail,
48 renovation of the court house, construction of a health department building and other

49 government offices, establishment of a county landfill, and opening of several fire stations;
50 and

51 WHEREAS, as county commissioner, Mr. Holder promoted the paving of county roads, laid
52 the foundation for establishing an organized street naming process to aid in emergency
53 response, and worked with the Georgia Department of Transportation to plan, develop, and
54 implement the Highway 87 Bypass which has greatly helped maintain steady traffic flow in
55 middle Georgia; and

56 WHEREAS, Mr. Holder worked with Bleckley Memorial Hospital during financial
57 downturns to ensure that high quality hospital and ambulatory services remained available
58 to all citizens of Bleckley County; and

59 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished
60 Georgian be recognized appropriately by dedicating a road in his honor.

61 **PART III**

62 WHEREAS, Mr. Dick Campbell has long been recognized by the citizens of this state for the
63 vital role that he played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the welfare of the
64 people of Towns County, Georgia; and

65 WHEREAS, Mr. Campbell moved to Towns County in 1936 and shortly thereafter purchased
66 the Alexander Griss Mill, which provided flour and cornmeal; and

67 WHEREAS, years later he opened a country store next to the Crooked Creek Bridge, where
68 he sold clothing and groceries to the people of Towns County and became a fixture of the
69 local community; and

70 WHEREAS, Mr. Campbell was known for his kindness, generosity, and understanding,
71 always going out of his way to help others in need; and

72 WHEREAS, he was responsible for ensuring that many hungry children were fed when their
73 families struggled to put food on the family table; and

74 WHEREAS, Mr. Campbell arranged for local children to pick blackberries to sell at his store
75 or be purchased by other stores; and

76 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Mr. Campbell was a good natured man who
77 also served as constable for the community of Brasstown; and

78 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments and
79 contributions of this remarkable and distinguished Georgian be recognized appropriately by
80 dedicating a bridge in his memory.

81 **PART IV**

82 WHEREAS, Mr. Cecil J. Embry was born on January 30, 1926, in Madison County, Georgia,
83 the only son of Carlton and Lula Mae Embry; and

84 WHEREAS, Mr. Embry moved to Eatonton, Georgia, in December, 1939, where he attended
85 Phoenix School, began farming with his father on New Phoenix Road, and began dairying
86 in 1941; and

87 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
88 States Navy in the Pacific Theatre during World War II; and

89 WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the war, Mr. Embry returned to the family farm on Phoenix
90 Road, which he purchased from his father, and resumed the family's dairy business; and

91 WHEREAS, in 1947 he married his beloved wife, Florence Carnes, and they had three
92 children, Roy, Shirley, and Carol, and he remained in the dairy business until his passing in
93 1985; and

94 WHEREAS, Mr. Embry was an upstanding resident of Putnam County, Georgia; an active
95 member of his community and a kind neighbor; and a longtime member of Philadelphia
96 Church; and

97 WHEREAS, Mr. Embry served his community on the Putnam County Board of Tax
98 Assessors, the Putnam Welfare Board, the Georgia Milk Producers Board, and the Eatonton
99 Cooperative Feed Board; and

100 WHEREAS, Mr. Embry was a proud member of the local American Legion Post and served
101 as Post Commander of V.F.W. Post 6686; and

102 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished
103 example of America's Greatest Generation be recognized appropriately by dedicating a
104 bridge in his memory.

105 **PART V**

106 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of its finest citizens and most dedicated law
107 enforcement officers with the tragic passing of Patrol Officer Anthony Christie on
108 May 25, 2018; and

109 WHEREAS, Patrol Officer Christie served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty
110 with the United States Navy for 13 years and was recognized with the Navy Achievement
111 Medal, Navy Good Conduct Medal, Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, and Global
112 War on Terror Medal; and

113 WHEREAS, following his dedicated service to the United States military, Patrol Officer
114 Christie joined the Savannah Police Department in December, 2015; and

115 WHEREAS, during his years with the Savannah Police Department he earned the Teamwork
116 Award for assisting with the search and rescue of a missing child who was abandoned in a
117 wooded area by a robbery suspect; and

118 WHEREAS, Patrol Officer Christie was highly regarded by the citizens of his community
119 and state and by local government officials as a person of unquestioned integrity and
120 dedication to the sound principles of law enforcement; and

121 WHEREAS, his life was tragically cut short in the line of duty when his patrol car was struck
122 by a tractor trailer on Interstate 16 while he was assisting with traffic control at the scene of
123 an accident collision investigation; and

124 WHEREAS, Patrol Officer Christie exhibited extraordinary devotion to duty, outstanding
125 loyalty, fine leadership, and meticulous attention to detail in all his duties; and

126 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished
127 Georgian be recognized appropriately by dedicating an interchange in his memory.

128

PART VI

129 WHEREAS, Mr. Lawrence James Gillis has long been recognized by the citizens of this state
130 for the vital role that he played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the
131 welfare of the people of Atkinson County, Georgia; and

132 WHEREAS, the Gillis family members were pioneers in the area of Atkinson County near
133 the Satilla River as some of the first settlers on both the Stokesville side of the river and the
134 Mt. Zion side of the river; and

135 WHEREAS, Mr. Gillis served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the
136 United States Army, valiantly serving during World War I from 1917 to 1919; and

137 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Mr. Gillis was a founding member of Mt. Zion
138 Baptist Church's Sunday school, and he served the church for many years as a deacon; and

139 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments and
140 contributions of this remarkable and distinguished Georgian be recognized appropriately by
141 dedicating a bridge in his memory.

142

PART VII

143 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL
144 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the interchange at Interstate 20 and Highway 221/Exit 183
145 in Columbia County is dedicated as the Senator Bill Jackson Interchange.

146 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ENACTED that the portion of the Highway 87 Bypass
147 from the intersection of Highway 87 and Bellflower Drive to the intersection of Highway 87
148 and Holly Ross Road in Bleckley County is dedicated as the Jackie Holder Bypass.

149 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ENACTED that the bridge on State Route 66 over
150 Crooked Creek/Brasstown Creek in Towns County is dedicated as the Dick Campbell
151 Bridge.

152 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ENACTED that the bridge on State Route 16 between
153 Pea Ridge Road and Old Phoenix Road in Putnam County is dedicated as the Cecil J. Embry
154 Memorial Bridge.

155 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ENACTED that the interchange at Interstate 16 and
156 State Route 307 in Chatham County is dedicated as the SPD Patrol Officer Anthony Christie
157 Memorial Interchange.

158 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ENACTED that the bridge on State Route 64 over
159 Satilla River in Atkinson County is dedicated as the Lawrence James Gillis Bridge.

160 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
161 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the road facilities named in this
162 resolution.

163 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
164 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the Department of
165 Transportation; to Senator William "Bill" S. Jackson and Mr. Jackie Holder; and to the
166 families of Mr. Dick Campbell; Mr. Cecil J. Embry; Patrol Officer Anthony Christie; and Mr.
167 Lawrence James Gillis.