

House Resolution 503

By: Representative Greene of the 151st

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Billy Franklin Payne; 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 Billy Franklin Payne; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Billy Franklin Payne was born in 1934 in Alabama and raised in Morris,
5 Georgia, a beloved nephew of Ethel and Clifford Bennett who raised them as their own; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
7 States Air Force, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans before
8 returning to further serve his community and state with the Georgia State Patrol for 25 years;
9 and
- 10 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith who witnessed Christ through word and deed,
11 Billy Franklin Payne was a lifetime faithful member of Union United Methodist Church; and
- 12 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Gwyneira, and was blessed with
13 two remarkable sons and one outstanding daughter; and

14 WHEREAS, he had a deep love for the outdoors, spending much of his time woodworking,
15 walking in the woods, and teaching his children and grandchildren about the local wildlife
16 and fishing techniques; and

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

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

23 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Billy Franklin Payne will long be
24 remembered for his love of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who
25 had the great fortune of knowing him.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
27 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Billy Franklin Payne and
28 express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
30 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
31 family of Billy Franklin Payne.