

House Resolution 918

By: Representative Efration of the 104th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of Judge Ramón Alvarado and dedicating a bridge in his memory; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of its most kind-hearted and promising leaders of
4 the legal profession with the untimely passing of Judge Ramón Alvarado on July 20, 2020,
5 after his inspiring and heart-breaking battle against cancer; and

6 WHEREAS, Judge Alvarado grew up in a military family, graduated from Northview High
7 School in Michigan, earned his bachelor's degree from Grand Valley State University, and
8 attended law school at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; and

9 WHEREAS, he moved to Georgia in 2005 to work in the Coweta County Public Defender's
10 Office, where his passion for providing people with the best defense regardless of their
11 economic means was evident; and

12 WHEREAS, Judge Alvarado continued to demonstrate his commitment to ensuring equal
13 justice to all with his own criminal defense firm, which he opened 2008, and where indigent
14 clients made up roughly half of his caseload throughout the ten years he ran his own practice;
15 and

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16 WHEREAS, in January 2019, Judge Alvarado's legal acumen and hard work helped him
17 achieve his life-long dream as he was sworn in as Gwinnett County's first judge of Korean
18 and Hispanic descent; and

19 WHEREAS, Judge Alvarado was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia on his 40th
20 birthday in 2019 and, after achieving eight months of remission and the day after he proudly
21 completed a half-marathon, a routine bone marrow biopsy revealed his cancer had returned;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, despite a stem cell transplant and transfusion lovingly gifted by his sister, Judge
24 Alvarado passed away from medical complications the day after his 100-day post-transplant
25 milestone; and

26 WHEREAS, though his time on the bench was much shorter than expected, Judge Alvarado
27 ensured every voice in his courtroom was heard and coordinated with the county animal
28 shelter to display a weekly slide show of adoptable pets in the courtroom; and

29 WHEREAS, Judge Alvarado will long be remembered for his great love of his wife and
30 dogs, making bad bets, obsessively Swiffering floors, and planning his next meal while in
31 the middle of his current one; and

32 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished jurist,
33 husband, brother, uncle, and friend be recognized appropriately by dedicating a bridge in his
34 memory.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL
36 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the bridge on State Route 20 over the CSX Rail Line south
37 of Reid Street in Gwinnett County is dedicated as the Judge Ramón Alvarado Bridge.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
39 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Judge Ramón Alvarado
40 Bridge.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
42 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
43 family of Judge Ramón Alvarado and to the Department of Transportation.