

House Resolution 1114

By: Representative Powell of the 32nd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Ralph Mack Owens; 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 Ralph Mack Owens on November 30, 2021; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Ralph Mack Owens was born on September 4, 1937, in Lavonia, Georgia, a
5 beloved son of Clifford and Dora Faye Owens; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of Franklin County with the Franklin County Sheriff's
7 Department and the Lavonia Police Department, bravely and courageously protecting his
8 fellow citizens for several years; and
- 9 WHEREAS, in 1987, Ralph was elected to the Lavonia City Council and after a two-year
10 term, he was elected mayor of Lavonia; and
- 11 WHEREAS, he worked diligently to ensure that Lavonia's best interests were represented
12 and was instrumental in the city's industrial and economic growth; and

13 WHEREAS, during his tenure, Ralph served as a board member of the Franklin County
14 Industrial Building Authority, the Franklin/Hart/Stephens Joint Development Authority, and
15 the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, among many others; and

16 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Ralph was an active member of Lavonia First
17 Baptist Church; and

18 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Judy Whisenant Owens, and to
19 Barbara Wilson Owens, who preceded him in death, and was blessed with eight remarkable
20 children, Mark, Darlene, Cliff, Kim, Kelly, Chris, Allison, and Donna (deceased), as well as
21 12 wonderful grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; 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, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
26 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he made of his life, he
27 made this world a better place in which to live; and

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

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Ralph Mack Owens and
33 express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
35 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
36 family of Ralph Mack Owens.