

House Resolution 121

By: Representative Houston of the 170th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Samuel Vernon Guthrie; 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 Samuel Vernon Guthrie on January 3, 2023; and

4 WHEREAS, Samuel Vernon Guthrie was born on January 31, 1929, in Berrien County, a
5 beloved son of James Lester and Pherbia Ford Guthrie; and

6 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
7 States Army, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans in the European
8 Theatre during World War II; and

9 WHEREAS, as a light machine gunner with the 5th Infantry Division attached to Patton's
10 third army, he participated in the D-Day Invasion of Normandy at Omaha Beach and later
11 fought in the Battle of the Bulge; and

12 WHEREAS, after courageously fighting for his country, he became an entrepreneur and
13 created several successful businesses, including a sawmill known as Guthrie Lumber
14 Company in Cecil, Georgia, which he continued managing even at 101 years old; and

15 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Samuel Vernon Guthrie was an active member
16 of the Poplar Springs Missionary Baptist Church; and

17 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Lucille, and was blessed with
18 one remarkable son, Ronnie; one wonderful grandson, Ronnie Jr.; six outstanding
19 great-grandchildren; and eight magnificent great-great-grandchildren; and

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

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

26 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Samuel Vernon Guthrie will long be
27 remembered for his love of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who
28 had the great fortune of knowing him.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Samuel Vernon Guthrie
31 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
34 family of Samuel Vernon Guthrie.