

## House Resolution 7

By: Representatives Burns of the 159<sup>th</sup>, Jones of the 47<sup>th</sup>, Hatchett of the 155<sup>th</sup>, Efstration of the 104<sup>th</sup>, and Beverly of the 143<sup>rd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring and remembering the life of the Honorable David Ralston, 73<sup>rd</sup> Speaker of the  
2 House of Representatives of this great state; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Honorable David Ralston was born on March 14, 1954, in Ellijay, Georgia,  
4 a distinguished native son of North Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, he attended Young Harris College and later earned a bachelor's degree from  
6 North Georgia College and State University and earned his law degree from the University  
7 of Georgia School of Law; and

8 WHEREAS, he ran a successful law practice providing sound legal advice and counsel in  
9 Blue Ridge, Fannin County, Georgia, for over four decades; and

10 WHEREAS, he began a long and distinguished career in public service in 1992 upon being  
11 elected to the Georgia Senate, where he served three consecutive terms; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2002, he was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives, where he was  
13 elected Speaker in 2010, which position he held until his untimely death; and

14 WHEREAS, as Speaker, he shepherded many pieces of legislation beneficial to the citizens  
15 of the great State of Georgia through the legislature, including tax relief, criminal justice  
16 reform, transportation infrastructure funding modernization, and adoption reform; and

17 WHEREAS, he had a particular passion for improving the health care provided to Georgia's  
18 citizens struggling with mental health issues; and

19 WHEREAS, on November 16, 2022, he died peacefully at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta  
20 surrounded by his beloved wife Sheree; his children, Matt and Elizabeth; and his family; and

21 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of this monumental statesman,  
22 distinguished Georgian, and native son of Gilmer County.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
24 the members of this body join together to express their deepest regret at the passing of  
25 the 73<sup>rd</sup> Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Honorable David Ralston, and extend  
26 their most sincere condolences to his family.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
28 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
29 family of the Honorable David Ralston.