Senate Resolution 178

By: Senators Crotts of the 17th, Gillis of the 20th, Starr of the 44th, Dean of the 31st, Scott of the 36th and others

ADOPTED

A RESOLUTION

Expressing regret at the passing of the Honorable Paul Coverdell and authorizing the placing of his portrait in the State Capitol; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, it was with profound regret that the citizens of this state learned of the passing of the Honorable Paul Coverdell, distinguished senior United States Senator from this state on July 18, 2000; and

WHEREAS, he served with unparalleled ability and integrity as a member of the state Senate from 1970 to 1989; and

WHEREAS, this dynamic public servant faithfully represented the citizens of Atlanta and Fulton County with great distinction, dedication, and ability for almost two decades; and

WHEREAS, he served as minority leader of the state Senate from 1974 to 1989; and

WHEREAS, his consistently thorough consideration of the issues presented to the state Senate and his integrity and reliability rightfully earned him the honor, respect, and trust of his colleagues over the years; and

WHEREAS, he was named by President George H. W. Bush as the director of the Peace Corps of the United States and served in that position from 1989 until 1991; and

WHEREAS, he was elected to the United States Senate in 1992 and served in that august body until his untimely death; and

WHEREAS, he exhibited the level of unselfish leadership ideally expected of public trustees in an effective, representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, he served his country with honor and distinction as an officer in the United States Army from 1962 until 1964; and

WHEREAS, he diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time, talent, and energy to the civic, religious, and charitable concerns of his community, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, his significant organizational and leadership talents, his remarkable patience and diplomacy, his keen sense of vision, and his sensitivity to the needs of the citizens of this state and nation earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and associates; and

WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the members of the General Assembly, most especially those with whom he served and to whom he so freely imparted advice, encouragement, and friendship and who regard him with much love and affection, pay appropriate tribute to one of their finest and most distinguished former colleagues for the three decades of impartial, well-reasoned, and enlightened service he rendered on behalf of this state and nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the members of this body express their profound sorrow at the untimely death of the Honorable Paul Coverdell and honor his memory for his personal and political influence in supporting legislation which has substantially improved the quality of life for our citizens and contributed to Georgia´s leadership role in the South and nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that this body, in recognition of the Honorable Paul Coverdell´s service as an unmatched example of enlightened government and statesmanship, directs that a portrait of Honorable Paul Coverdell be placed at an appropriate location on the third or fourth floor of the State Capitol Building with the location of such portrait to be selected by the Governor, President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Honorable Paul Coverdell.