

House Resolution 1063

By: Representatives Dempsey of the 13th, Blackmon of the 146th, Lumsden of the 12th, Barton of the 5th, and Hitchens of the 161st

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending and honoring the life and dedicated service of Chief Gordon Henderson; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Charles “Gordon” Henderson, age 75, of Stockbridge, Georgia, passed
4 away Friday, September, 5, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of dedicated service spanning
5 nearly five decades; and

6 WHEREAS, Chief Henderson, a native of the “Georgia Model Community” in Rome,
7 Georgia, was a veteran of the Rome-Floyd Fire Department, where he began his career on
8 November 2, 1975, and steadily rose through the ranks, serving as caption at Station One,
9 being promoted to deputy chief in 1988, and leading the department with distinction as chief
10 until his retirement on January 1, 2015; and

11 WHEREAS, his leadership was instrumental in the department, as noted by current Rome-
12 Floyd Fire Chief Troy Brock and retired Battalion Chief Phil Langston, who recalls Chief
13 Henderson’s key role in securing the land for the Firefighters Memorial in Rome; and

14 WHEREAS, Chief Henderson served as president of the Georgia State firefighters
15 Association from 2000 to 2002, as a district vice president for the Georgia Association of fire

16 Chiefs, and held multiple leadership roles within the National Fire Protection Association,
17 including serving as principal member of the national professional qualifications committee
18 for firefighters; and

19 WHEREAS, following his retirement from the Rome-Floyd Fire Department, Chief
20 Henderson continued to serve the fire profession statewide as executive Director of the
21 Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council, a role he held from 2015 to 2022,
22 ensuring compliance with all regulations and collaborating with officials and fire service
23 organizations throughout Georgia; and

24 WHEREAS, Director Gordon Henderson was succeeded in the Georgia Firefighter Standards
25 and Training Council by Executive Director Randy Toms, who recognizes the legacy left for
26 him to follow; and

27 WHEREAS, Chief Gordon Henderson is survived by his loving wife, Dawn Traylor
28 Henderson; his children, Jason and Kimbell; five grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and
29 four brothers.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body extend the deepest sympathies to the family of Chief Gordon
32 Henderson, as well as honor and commended his many years of exemplary service and
33 outstanding contributions to the fire service and the citizens of Georgia.

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 Chief
36 Gordon Henderson.