

Senate Resolution 725

By: Senators Wicks of the 34th, Harbison of the 15th, Anderson of the 43rd, Payne of the 54th, Rhett of the 33rd and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Celebrating the dedication of the Edward Crook Jr. Gymnasium; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, affectionately known as Eddie, Edward Crook, Jr., became Columbus, Georgia's
3 Olympic gold medalist at the 1960 Summer Olympics in Rome, Italy; and
- 4 WHEREAS, competing in middleweight boxing, Eddie was part of a historic and dynamic
5 United States Olympic boxing team that included Muhammad Ali and Wilbur McClure; and
- 6 WHEREAS, at age 31, Eddie was reportedly the oldest United States Army boxer to ever
7 win an Olympic gold medal, an extraordinary achievement that crowned an already
8 distinguished athletic career; and
- 9 WHEREAS, following his Olympic triumph, Eddie retired from competitive boxing and
10 continued his service with the United States Army, where his athletic excellence extended
11 to football; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Eddie served with the United States Army for 30 years, achieving the rank of
13 command sergeant major after serving two tours in Vietnam as well as earning the Silver
14 Star, two Purple Hearts, and a Bronze Star; and

15 WHEREAS, Eddie supported the boxing program at the Fort Benning, where he established
16 a training initiative known as the "Smokers"; and

17 WHEREAS, on February 27, 2026, the Edward Crook Jr. Gymnasium, located on Fort
18 Benning, will be dedicated in honor of Edward "Eddie" Crook, Jr.'s, lifetime of athletic
19 success, service, and leadership.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
21 celebrate the dedication of the Edward Crook Jr. Gymnasium and honor the life of Edward
22 "Eddie" Crook, Jr.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
24 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of
25 Edward "Eddie" Crook, Jr.