

House Resolution 115

By: Representatives Wilkinson of the 52nd, Brooks of the 55th, Geisinger of the 48th, Willard of the 51st, Lindsey of the 54th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of the Honorable Rodney Mims Cook, Sr.; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
4 with the passing of the Honorable Rodney Mims Cook, Sr., on January 13, 2013; and

5 WHEREAS, a native of Atlanta, Mr. Cook was the beloved son of James Leslie and Bess
6 Mims Cook; he attended Washington and Lee University and graduated valedictorian and
7 summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree and memberships in ODK and Phi Beta
8 Kappa; and

9 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
10 States Navy, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans as a Lieutenant in
11 the Pacific Theater during World War II; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Cook was united in love and marriage to Lane Young and was blessed with
13 three remarkable children, Jody Cook, Laura Cook, and Rodney Mims Cook, Jr., and three
14 wonderful grandchildren, English and Alexandra Mims Cook and Walker Mims Marshall;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, he was a seventh generation Georgia public figure who served for over 20 years
17 as an Atlanta alderman and member of the Georgia House of Representatives, serving on the
18 Appropriations, Ways and Means, and Industry committees as well as the Joint Senate-House
19 Committee on Computerized Criminal Records; and

20 WHEREAS, one of the first Republican officials elected in Georgia since Reconstruction,
21 Mr. Cook wrote Atlanta legislation pertaining to civil rights, zoning, urban renewal, the
22 Atlanta airport, the Interstate Highway System, Underground Atlanta, and the Atlanta
23 Stadium Authority; and

24 WHEREAS, he inspired many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern for his
25 fellow citizens, advocating for the removal of Peyton Wall, voting to seat the legally elected
26 Julian Bond despite his anti-Vietnam War position, championing the careers of Paul
27 Coverdell and Newt Gingrich, and acting as a patron in the Atlanta community; and

28 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. Cook will long be remembered for his
29 myriad contributions to Atlanta and Georgia, and this father, friend, and public servant will
30 be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of the Honorable Rodney
33 Mims Cook, Sr., and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
35 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Rodney Mims
36 Cook, Sr.