

House Resolution 119

By: Representatives Ralston of the 7th, Hitchens of the 161st, Stephens of the 164th, Petrea of the 166th, Gilliard of the 162nd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing United States Senator Johnny Isakson and dedicating a bridge in his honor; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Senator Johnny Isakson has long been recognized by the citizens of this state
4 for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the
5 welfare of the citizens of Georgia and the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, John "Johnny" Hardy Isakson was born on December 28, 1944, in Atlanta,
7 Georgia, and served in the Georgia Air National Guard for six years, where he attained the
8 rank of staff sergeant; and

9 WHEREAS, after graduating from the University of Georgia, he embarked on a career in real
10 estate with Northside Realty, a company his father helped to establish; he became president
11 of the company in 1979, a position he held for 22 years, during which time it became the
12 biggest independent real estate company in the Southeast and one of the largest in the
13 country; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1976, Senator Isakson was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives
15 where he served seven terms, four of them as the Republican Minority Leader, and went on
16 to serve in the Georgia Senate for one term; and

17 WHEREAS, he won his seat in the United States House of Representatives in a 1999 special
18 election and was re-elected to two more terms; he served on the House Education Committee
19 and was instrumental in the passage of the No Child Left Behind Act; and

20 WHEREAS, this dedicated public servant was first elected to the United States Senate in
21 2004, a historic occasion as it marked the first time in Georgia's history that both U.S. Senate
22 seats had been held by Republicans; and

23 WHEREAS, Senator Isakson was twice more elected to the United States Senate and served
24 honorably until his resignation in 2019, sponsoring over 130 bills and assuming leadership
25 roles on issues involving veterans affairs and international trade; and

26 WHEREAS, Senator Isakson's longstanding commitment to economic development in
27 Georgia is not more apparent than his commitment to the growth and prosperity of the Port
28 of Savannah; and

29 WHEREAS, his work to secure federal funding for the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project
30 (SHEP) and the Mason Mega Rail Yard ensures the efficient movement of goods through the
31 state, impacting the lives of all Georgians; and

32 WHEREAS, Senator Isakson has served this state and nation with honor and distinction, and
33 his vision and unyielding commitment have set the standard for public service and it is

34 abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this remarkable and
35 distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized by dedicating a bridge in his honor.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
37 GEORGIA that the bridge on State Route 307 over the Georgia Ports Authority Mega Rail
38 Site in Chatham County is dedicated as the Senator Johnny Isakson Bridge.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
40 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Senator Johnny Isakson
41 Bridge.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
43 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to
44 Senator Johnny Isakson and the Department of Transportation.