

House Resolution 1284

By: Representatives Burns of the 159th and Hitchens of the 161st

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. James T. Sapp on the wonderful occasion of his 100th
2 birthday; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. James T. Sapp enlisted with the United States Army in 1942, hoping to get
4 into the Air Force; and

5 WHEREAS, he finished jump school in November of 1942 and in April of 1943 joined the
6 82nd Airborne Division, spent 29 months overseas, and saw 371 days of combat; and

7 WHEREAS, he not only survived the Battle of the Bulge, but was in Germany when the U.S.
8 Army met the Russians; and

9 WHEREAS, upon his return to the United States, Mr. Sapp vowed to honor those who gave
10 their lives for this country by becoming the best man that he could be, and he lives a life of
11 service to others in testament to that promise; and

12 WHEREAS, an active member of his community, Mr. Sapp was featured in a telethon to
13 raise money for a WWII monument to be placed in Savannah, and continues his service to
14 veteran and civic organizations and historical societies; he publicly speaks to groups,

15 including school children, about WWII; he consults with Port Wentworth in a historical
16 church building restoration and the beginning of a historical museum for the town; and is the
17 chaplain of the American Legion Post 209 in Effingham County; and

18 WHEREAS, he has received many honors, including the Bronze Star, the Good Conduct
19 Medal, the Presidential Unit Emblem of European, African, Middle Eastern Campaign Medal
20 with six stars, the World War II Victory Medal, the Army of Occupational Medal, the Expert
21 Combat Infantry Badge, the Belgian Fourragere, the Netherlands Orange Lanyard, the
22 Honorable Service Lapel Button, the World War II Parachute Badge with three stars, and the
23 Bronze Arrowhead; and

24 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage on January 12, 1947, to the late Mary
25 Wendelken, and together they were blessed with two remarkable children, Jimmy Sapp and
26 Beverly Smithey; and

27 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Mr. Sapp is an active member of Rincon
28 United Methodist Church; and

29 WHEREAS, he continues to speak to children in elementary and high school as well as civic
30 organizations about his WWII history and keeping his story alive and continued to repair
31 clocks as a hobby until his 99th birthday; and

32 WHEREAS, he now continues to mow his grass, rake and burn leaves, and keep his place
33 shining, and since he gave up driving on his 99th birthday, he is taken to lunch every day;
34 and

35 WHEREAS, Mr. Sapp will be celebrating his 100th birthday on May 20, 2022, and it is
36 abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments and bravery of this
37 distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized during this special time in his life.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
39 the members of this body commend Mr. James T. Sapp for his efficient, effective, unselfish,
40 dedicated public service to his community and state, express their most profound
41 appreciation for him and all members of the United States military who stand ever ready to
42 lay the ultimate sacrifice upon the altar of freedom, and extend their sincere best wishes for
43 health and happiness as celebrates the marvelous occasion of his 100th birthday.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
45 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. James T. Sapp.