

House Resolution 170

By: Representatives Hugley of the 141st, Smith of the 139th, Buckner of the 137th, Smith of the 138th, Greene of the 154th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mary Jane Perkins Galer; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
3 with the passing of Mary Jane Perkins Galer on February 7, 2023; and
- 4 WHEREAS, a resident of Columbus, Georgia, Mary Jane Perkins Galer earned much respect
5 from her peers, colleagues, and fellow citizens for her many achievements as an educator,
6 librarian, representative in the Georgia State Legislature, advocate for women's rights,
7 author, and member of numerous civic and professional organizations; and
- 8 WHEREAS, she became united in love and marriage to her husband, Robert, in November
9 1951, shortly before her distinguished work on Post as an army librarian and as an associate
10 library and professor at Columbus College; and
- 11 WHEREAS, during her 12 years of service as representative, her notable accomplishments
12 include influencing an agreement regarding water allocation and uses of the Chattahoochee,
13 Flint, and Apalachicola Rivers; revising guardianship laws; passing legislation to allow for
14 garnishment of pensions for alimony and child support; and improving child support
15 enforcement laws to comply with federal guidelines; and

16 WHEREAS, in addition to her legislative position, she served as director for library services
17 at Troy State University and authored or edited three remarkable books, including *Columbus*,
18 *GA: Lists of People 1828-1852 and Sexton's Reports to 1866*; *Historic Linwood Cemetery*
19 with Linda Kennedy; and *Dr. Azor and Gloriana Purdy Betts: Loyalists and Hearty*
20 *Pioneers*; and

21 WHEREAS, Mary Jane Perkins Galer gave inspiration to many through her high ideals,
22 morals, and deep concern for her fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and
23 understanding she demonstrated to her family and friends were admired by others; and

24 WHEREAS, she was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
25 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example she made of her life,
26 she made this world a better place in which to live; and

27 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, Mary Jane Perkins Galer will long be
28 remembered for her love of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who
29 had the great fortune of knowing her.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mary Jane Perkins Galer
32 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at her passing.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
34 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
35 family of Mary Jane Perkins Galer.