

## House Resolution 331

By: Representatives Greene of the 151<sup>st</sup>, Momtahan of the 17<sup>th</sup>, Gunter of the 8<sup>th</sup>, Hill of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mathis of the 144<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and congratulating William W. "Billy" Fleming upon the grand occasion of his  
2 retirement; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, William W. "Billy" Fleming has long been recognized by the citizens of this  
4 state for the important role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal  
5 commitment to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, he has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time,  
7 talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state, as evidenced  
8 dramatically by his superlative service with the City of Blakely and Early County; and

9 WHEREAS, he has held numerous leadership positions during his highly distinguished  
10 career, including mayor of the City of Blakely; commissioner of Early County; and president  
11 of the Blakely-Early County Chamber of Commerce, the Blakely Lions Club, and the  
12 Blakely Rotary Club; and

13 WHEREAS, a fourth generation publisher of the *Early County News*, Billy served several  
14 terms on the Georgia Press Association Board of Directors and was eventually inducted as  
15 president, later serving on the Georgia Press Education Foundation Board of Trustees; and

16 WHEREAS, he was presented the prestigious Gold Club Award in 2016 by the Georgia  
17 Press Association in recognition of his 50 years of excellent service to the newspaper  
18 industry in Georgia; and

19 WHEREAS, Billy's significant organizational and leadership talents, remarkable patience  
20 and diplomacy, keen sense of vision, and sensitivity to the needs of the citizens of this state  
21 have earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and associates; and

22 WHEREAS, this distinguished gentleman has given inspiration to many through his high  
23 ideals, morals, and deep concern for his fellow citizens, and he possesses the vast wisdom  
24 which only comes through experience and the strength of character which is achieved  
25 through overcoming the many challenges of life; and

26 WHEREAS, Billy has served with honor and distinction, and his vision and unyielding  
27 commitment to excellence will be sorely missed upon the occasion of his retirement; and

28 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
29 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
31 the members of this body recognize William W. "Billy" Fleming for his efficient, effective,  
32 unselfish, and dedicated public service to the City of Blakely and Early County and for his  
33 many years of service to the newspaper industry in Georgia; congratulate him upon the grand  
34 occasion of his retirement; and extend the most sincere best wishes for continued health and  
35 happiness.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
37 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to  
38 William W. "Billy" Fleming.