

House Resolution 485

By: Representative Carter of the 175th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Mr. Frank "Poppa D." Delaney, Jr., and dedicating a road in his honor; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Frank "Poppa D." Delaney, Jr., was employed by the Thomas County
4 School System in 1969 and assigned to East Ochlocknee School where he served as teacher
5 and acting principal; and

6 WHEREAS, following the full integration of schools in Thomas County in 1970, he served
7 as a math teacher at Central High School in Thomas County until he was named assistant
8 principal in 1972; and

9 WHEREAS, he was instrumental in being a strong public example, as well as working
10 diligently behind the scenes, to help ensure a smooth transition for Thomas County's families
11 and their children and was one of the primary steadying forces during the tumultuous years
12 of school desegregation; and

13 WHEREAS, he served as high school assistant principal from 1972 to 1993, earning the love,
14 respect, and admiration of thousands of Thomas County students; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1993, he was named principal of Thomas County Central High School,
16 devotedly leading thousands of children of Thomas County, until his retirement in 2008; and

17 WHEREAS, when called upon by the school district in a time of need, he returned to the
18 school system in 2011 to serve Thomas County Central High School as dean of students and
19 principal emeritus; and

20 WHEREAS, he has led students, teachers, and the community at large with his uncanny
21 wisdom, his powerful sincerity, and his gracious good humor; and

22 WHEREAS, affectionately known by the entire county as "Poppa D.," Mr. Delaney is
23 considered one of the cornerstones of community influence by all of the citizens within
24 Thomas County; and

25 WHEREAS, the citizens of Thomas County desire to establish a lasting tribute to one whose
26 career spans nearly half a century and has become part of the very fabric of Thomas County,
27 born and raised on Pebble Hill Plantation and spending his entire adult life working with the
28 Thomas County School System; and

29 WHEREAS, he has steadfastly placed God and family as the centerpieces of his leadership
30 philosophy, never shying away from an opportunity to lead people toward one while always
31 making sure to include them as part of the other; and

32 WHEREAS, he has been honored by innumerable social and civic organizations for his
33 invaluable service to tens of thousands of Thomas County citizens; and

34 WHEREAS, his legacy will continue to impact the development of Thomas County for many
35 generations to come; and

36 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished
37 Georgian be recognized appropriately by dedicating a road in his honor.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL
39 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the portion of US Highway 84 Bypass from Thomas
40 County Central High School to Thomas County Middle School in Thomas County is
41 dedicated as the Frank "Poppa D." Delaney, Jr., Parkway.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
43 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Frank "Poppa D." Delaney,
44 Jr., Parkway.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
46 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Mr.
47 Frank "Poppa D." Delaney, Jr., and to the Department of Transportation.