

House Resolution 55EX

By: Representatives Buckner of the 137th, Hugley of the 136th, and Cheokas of the 138th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Colonel Joe Slade Johnson, Jr.; 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 Colonel Joe Slade Johnson, Jr. on November 15, 2021; and

4 WHEREAS, Joe Slade Johnson, Jr. was born in Talbotton, Georgia, on October 14, 1939,
5 the son of Joe Slade Johnson, Sr. and Winifred Phillips Johnson; and

6 WHEREAS, he was a graduate of Talbot County High School, received his undergraduate
7 degree from the United States Military Academy at West Point, and his Master's Degree in
8 Public Administration from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania; and

9 WHEREAS, Joe Slade Johnson, Jr. was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant Infantry Officer
10 in the United States Army in 1962, and served his first duty station in Panama closely
11 followed by two tours to Vietnam, a tour in Korea, and several years in Germany, before
12 returning stateside for the remainder of his career; and

13 WHEREAS, this graduate of the United States Army War College retired after 30 years as
14 a decorated Colonel having been recognized with many prestigious honors throughout his

15 distinguished career, including, but not limited to, the Defense Superior Service Medal, two
16 Legion of Merits, five Bronze Stars, a Bronze Star with Valor, and many more awards; and

17 WHEREAS, after retiring and returning to his hometown, Colonel Joe Slade Johnson
18 succeeded his father by being elected as the Talbot County Probate Judge, a position which
19 he dutifully held for 15 years; and

20 WHEREAS, this dedicated public servant was a lifetime member of the Talbotton United
21 Methodist Church, served as chairman of the Talbot County Chamber of Commerce from
22 1994-2000, was on the board of Family Connection, chairman of the Talbot County
23 Development Authority, a member of the Lions Club, and board member of Family
24 Connection, Columbus Technical College and People's Bank of Georgia, and contributed to
25 several other local community organizations; and

26 WHEREAS, Colonel Joe Slade Johnson, Jr. was a devoted husband to Alice Murrah Johnson
27 for 50 years and is survived by his wife and sons Joe Slade Johnson III and Steven Johnson;
28 his grandchildren Avery, Henry, Tucker, Charlotte, Savannah, Raleigh, and Cody; and his
29 brother John William Johnson II; and

30 WHEREAS, he will long be remembered for his love of Talbot County, as a doting
31 grandfather revered by his grandkids, as a beloved friend to all, and for his outstanding
32 service to his country with honor as a proud American.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Colonel Joe Slade
35 Johnson, Jr. and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

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 the
38 family of Colonel Joe Slade Johnson, Jr.