

## House Resolution 57

By: Representative Allison of the 8<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of John Peter Dillard, owner of the Dillard House in Rabun  
2 County, Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
4 with the passing of John Peter Dillard, an honest leader whose business is of great value to  
5 the economy and to Rabun County; and

6 WHEREAS, the Dillard House was established in 1917 in the Georgia mountains and is now  
7 famous for its home-style meals and authentic Southern hospitality; and

8 WHEREAS, the Dillard House has served legends such as Henry Ford, Thomas Edison,  
9 Harvey Firestone, Walt Disney, Arnold Palmer, Larry Byrd Johnson, Mayor Maynard  
10 Jackson, Ambassador Andrew Young, and Senator Sam Nunn; and

11 WHEREAS, John Peter Dillard took over operations of the Dillard House in 1988, after  
12 establishing businesses of his own, running a restaurant, operating the Best Western Inn, and  
13 developing Chalet Village when he was only 23; and

14 WHEREAS, John Peter Dillard graduated from the University of Georgia and earned a  
15 master's in business administration from the University of Georgia's Terry College of  
16 Business; and

17 WHEREAS, he served his community on the Rabun County Development Authority and  
18 Rabun County Convention and Visitors Bureau, in addition to running the Dillard House; and

19 WHEREAS, John Peter Dillard was united in love and marriage to Louise S. Dillard, and  
20 was blessed with two remarkable children, John E. Dillard and Natalie Dillard Cross, and  
21 four wonderful grandchildren, Maya Dillard, Connor Dillard, Dillard S. Cross, and Blaire  
22 Patricia Cross; and

23 WHEREAS, he gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and deep concern  
24 for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he demonstrated to his  
25 family and friends were admired by others; and

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

29 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, John Peter Dillard will long be remembered  
30 as an incredible businessman and wonderful ambassador for Rabun County who always had  
31 the best interests of the State of Georgia at heart.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
33 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of John Peter Dillard and  
34 express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
36 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
37 family of John Peter Dillard.