

House Resolution 74

By: Representative Ralston of the 7th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of Reverend John D. McDaniel and dedicating a bridge in his memory; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend John D. McDaniel was a long-time resident of Fannin County,
4 Georgia, where he lived until his passing in 1913; and

5 WHEREAS, Reverend McDaniel served as Fannin County's first commissioner of education,
6 now known as county superintendent of schools, a position which required him to perform
7 certification tests for teachers, issue teaching licenses, assign teachers to particular schools,
8 advise teachers on job opportunities, and communicate information regarding county schools
9 to the public; and

10 WHEREAS, at the time he held this esteemed position, Fannin County had an average of
11 only one teacher per school and he earned a salary of roughly \$3 per day for his service; and

12 WHEREAS, Reverend McDaniel represented Fannin County in the Georgia General
13 Assembly from 1893 to 1897 as a member of the House of Representatives where he gained
14 notoriety for his successful efforts to obtain national grave markers for Southerners who
15 served in the Civil War, a laudable feat given his known views as a pacifist; and

16 WHEREAS, he was a driving force behind the movement to change Fannin County's seat
17 from Morganton to Blue Ridge; and

18 WHEREAS, Reverend McDaniel secured funding for construction of the bridge at
19 Fightingtown Creek, which was often ravaged by floodwaters and so became known
20 throughout the area as the "Lost Bridge"; and

21 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments and
22 sacrifices of this remarkable and distinguished Georgian be recognized appropriately by
23 dedicating a bridge in his honor.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL
25 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the bridge on Highway 515 over Ada Street in Blue Ridge,
26 Georgia, is dedicated as the John D. McDaniel Bridge.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and
28 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the John D. McDaniel Bridge.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
30 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
31 family of Reverend John D. McDaniel and to the Department of Transportation.