

## House Resolution 818

By: Representatives Lumsden of the 12<sup>th</sup>, Dempsey of the 13<sup>th</sup>, Barton of the 5<sup>th</sup>, Tarvin of the 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Cameron of the 1<sup>st</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. Bobby Lee Cook and dedicating an intersection in his  
2 memory; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of its finest citizens with the passing of Mr. Bobby  
4 Lee Cook on February 19, 2021; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Cook was highly regarded by the citizens of this state and by members of  
6 the legal community across the country as a person of unquestioned integrity with an  
7 unparalleled commitment to defending the rights of the accused; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Cook was born in Chattoogaville, Georgia, on February 12, 1927, where  
9 he was raised in a small rural home without running water and learned the value of personal  
10 discipline and duty through his work at his family's local grocery store; and

11 WHEREAS, he enrolled in Gordon Academy, a military school, as a teenager and lied about  
12 his age in order to enlist in the United States Navy to serve as a guardian of this nation's  
13 freedom and liberty during World War II, where he also honed his fighting skills as a boxer;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Cook began his legal career with his own practice in 1949 in Summerville,  
16 Georgia; and

17 WHEREAS, his personal discipline, sharp legal acumen, expansive knowledge base, fighting  
18 spirit, and devotion to helping others were evident in his representation of clients and  
19 throughout his career; and

20 WHEREAS, for decades, Mr. Cook was hired for, or consulted on, nearly every high profile  
21 case in Georgia and his practice went on to transcend Georgia, with victories in murder trials  
22 in Germany and Vietnam; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Cook will long be remembered for his tireless advocacy for people of all  
24 economic strata, his commitment to the legal profession through his mentorship of other  
25 attorneys and imparting knowledge at seminars, and his razor-sharp wit; and

26 WHEREAS, widely known as the Dean of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Mr. Cook's work was  
27 recognized with numerous honors and accolades throughout his prestigious career, including  
28 lifetime achievement awards by both the National and Georgia Associations of Criminal  
29 Defense Lawyers; Georgia State University College of Law School's 2017 Ben F. Johnson  
30 Jr. Public Service Award; GreenLaw's Lifetime Achievement Award; and the Small Town  
31 Lawyer Made Good Award from the State Bar of Washington; was inducted into the  
32 American Trial Lawyers Hall of Fame; and has his portrait displayed in the Georgia Supreme  
33 Court; and

34 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished  
35 Georgian be recognized appropriately by dedicating an intersection in his memory.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL  
37 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the intersection at State Route 48 and State Route 157 in  
38 Chattooga County is dedicated as the Bobby Lee Cook Memorial Intersection.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and  
40 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Bobby Lee Cook Memorial  
41 Intersection.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
43 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
44 family of Mr. Bobby Lee Cook.