

## House Resolution 873

By: Representatives Smith of the 18<sup>th</sup>, Burns of the 159<sup>th</sup>, McDonald of the 26<sup>th</sup>, Powell of the 33<sup>rd</sup>, Parrish of the 158<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the late Thomas B. Murphy, 69th Speaker of the Georgia House of  
2 Representatives, on the 100th anniversary of his birth; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the late Thomas B. Murphy will always be a giant in the history of Georgia and  
4 a legendary figure in the Georgia State Capitol where he served in the House of  
5 Representatives during the terms of five Governors from 1961 through January of 2003;  
6 during that period he served continuously as Speaker of the House from December 19, 1973,  
7 through January of 2003, making him the longest serving Speaker in the history of Georgia  
8 and, for many years, the longest serving active presiding officer in any state legislature; and

9 WHEREAS, Thomas B. Murphy was born in Bremen, Georgia, on March 10, 1924; and

10 WHEREAS, he graduated from Bremen High School in 1941 and North Georgia College in  
11 1943; and

12 WHEREAS, he served with valor and distinction in the United States Navy in World War  
13 II from 1943 to 1946 and, upon his return from military service, attended the University of  
14 Georgia Law School where he graduated in 1949; and

15 WHEREAS, he was a man of honor, a leading light of the Georgia Bar, an untiring advocate  
16 for the State of Georgia and its citizens, highly respected by both his political allies and his  
17 political opponents, and above all else a man of church and family; and

18 WHEREAS, he was a skilled lawyer, styled in the best country lawyer vernacular and  
19 disposition, who provided the highest example of a zealous advocate on behalf of all those  
20 committed to his counsel; and

21 WHEREAS, March 10, 2024, will mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of this great  
22 Georgian.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
24 March 10, 2024, shall be a day dedicated to honoring the late Thomas B. Murphy on the  
25 100th anniversary of his birth, a man who was the Speaker of this House for many, many  
26 years and a beloved friend of many of its current and former members.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
28 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
29 family of the late Speaker Thomas B. Murphy.