

## House Resolution 977

By: Representatives Gaines of the 117<sup>th</sup>, Wiedower of the 119<sup>th</sup>, Frye of the 118<sup>th</sup>, Powell of the 32<sup>nd</sup>, and Rhodes of the 120<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mike Dekle; 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 Mike Dekle on February 24, 2022; and
- 4 WHEREAS, born in Panama City, Florida, Dekle's career as a songwriter took off in the  
5 early 1980s after moving to Nashville with a dream of finding success as a solo artist; and
- 6 WHEREAS, acclaimed songwriter and producer Byron Hill was one of the first to take a  
7 chance on Dekle, agreeing to produce his song "Scarlet Fever," which soon caught the ear  
8 of Kenny Rogers, who recorded his own version of the track, gaining the No. 5 spot on the  
9 Billboard Hot Country Songs chart in 1983; and
- 10 WHEREAS, soon after, Dekle signed a deal to write exclusively for Rogers, including "Two  
11 Hearts, One Love," "People in Love," "Some Prisons Don't Have Walls," and "Someone  
12 Must Feel Like a Fool Tonight"; and

13 WHEREAS, Dekle's song "A Day in the Life of a Fool" was recorded by George Jones for  
14 his 1988 album *He Stopped Loving Her Today*, and by Keith Whitley for his 1988  
15 breakthrough LP *Don't Close Your Eyes*; and

16 WHEREAS, in recent years, Brantley Gilbert had worked closely with Dekle, co-writing and  
17 recording multiple tracks together for his albums *Halfway to Heaven*, *Just As I Am*, *Read Me*  
18 *My Rights*, and *The Devil Don't Sleep*, as well as co-writing Gilbert's No. 1 hit "Country  
19 Must Be Country Wide" with Dekle and Colt Ford; and

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

23 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mike Dekle will long be remembered for  
24 his love of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who had the great  
25 fortune of knowing him.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
27 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mike Dekle and express  
28 their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
30 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
31 family of Mike Dekle.