

## Senate Resolution 1171

By: Senators Thompson of the 33rd, Hill of the 32nd, Tippins of the 37th, Thompson of the 14th, Tate of the 38th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of Mr. Otis A. Brumby, Jr., and dedicating a bridge in his memory; and for  
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Otis A. Brumby, Jr., long-time publisher of the *Marietta Daily Journal*,  
4 passed away at the age of 72; and

5 WHEREAS, the Marietta resident, one of Cobb's best-known native sons, had a family  
6 pedigree that stretched back generations in the county, and he made a name for himself as  
7 a prominent businessman and journalist who grew a small local paper into a thriving  
8 conglomerate during a time when Atlanta's suburbs were beginning to expand; and

9 WHEREAS, he was a force in local politics as well, using his newspaper to promote his  
10 vision of progress in Marietta, Cobb County, and this state; and working behind the scenes,  
11 Mr. Brumby influenced decades of important decisions in Cobb County that drove residential  
12 and commercial development and turned the county into a magnet for establishments of  
13 higher learning, such as Kennesaw State University; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Brumby got his start in the newspaper business at the *Marietta Daily*  
15 *Journal*, working for his father and namesake as an assistant to the publisher in 1965 and  
16 becoming publisher years later, and in 1969 he started the Neighbor Group of weekly  
17 community newspapers, growing the company into a collection of 24 newspapers, two  
18 magazines, six websites, and a weekly circulation of 375,000; and

19 WHEREAS, former Governor Roy Barnes, another Cobb County luminary who appointed  
20 Mr. Brumby to the State Board of Education, stated, "Otis was a giant in our community, he  
21 was a giant in our state, and we will miss him deeply. He was the epitome of public service";  
22 and

23 WHEREAS, in addition to his newspaper work and his service on the State Board of  
24 Education, Mr. Brumby also served on the State Transportation Board and the Marietta  
25 School Board; and in 1991 he became the fifth president of the Brumby Chair Company,  
26 which was co-founded in 1875 by his grandfather and has graced porches nationwide,  
27 including at the White House, with the world famous Brumby Rocker, thus reclaiming family  
28 control of the company; the next year he opened a showroom on the square in downtown  
29 Marietta; and

30 WHEREAS, Mr. Brumby is survived by his wife, Martha Lee; daughters, Spain, Lee, Betsy,  
31 and Anna; son, Otis III; and 11 grandchildren.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL  
33 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the bridge on North Marietta Parkway over Interstate 75  
34 in Cobb County is dedicated as the Otis A. Brumby, Jr., Memorial Bridge.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and  
36 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Otis A. Brumby, Jr., Memorial  
37 Bridge.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
39 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the family of Mr. Otis A. Brumby, Jr., and  
40 to the Department of Transportation.