

Senate Resolution 607

By: Senator Miller of the 49th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mrs. Lee D. Highsmith, executive director of Junior  
2 Achievement of Northeast Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, as executive director of Junior Achievement of Northeast Georgia, Mrs. Lee D.  
4 Highsmith oversees a variety of programs that touched the lives of more than 7,000 students  
5 last year alone; and

6 WHEREAS, Junior Achievement is a nonprofit organization designed to encourage students  
7 at risk of dropping out of school to complete their education by helping students connect  
8 what they are learning in school with the real world; and

9 WHEREAS, the programs bridge the business and education communities with lessons that  
10 empower young people with the knowledge that they have the ability to secure their future  
11 economic success; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia is third to last in graduation rates in the country and studies have shown  
13 that young people who drop out of high school are twice as likely as graduates to be  
14 unemployed, three times as likely to live in poverty, and eight times as likely to spend part  
15 of their lives in prison; and

16 WHEREAS, Junior Achievement tries to save more young people in Georgia every year  
17 from abandoning their education by demonstrating a belief in their boundless potential;  
18 conviction in the educational and motivational impact of relevant hands-on learning; respect  
19 for the talents, creativity, perspective, and background of each individual; belief in the power  
20 of partnership and collaboration; commitment to the principles of market-based economics  
21 and entrepreneurship; and passion for what the organization does and a commitment to  
22 honesty, integrity, and excellence in how it does it; and

23 WHEREAS, Junior Achievement selects a Business Hall of Fame laureate based on his or  
24 her business accomplishments and community service in order to showcase for students what  
25 it takes to be successful in today's global economy and demonstrate that a person's service  
26 to his or her fellow man is one of life's most important roles; and

27 WHEREAS, Mrs. Highsmith has been a resident of Gainesville for 29 years and has a  
28 bachelor's degree in education from the University of Georgia; and

29 WHEREAS, she is united in love and marriage to Mr. Bucky Highsmith and the two have  
30 been blessed with five remarkable children, Katie, Drew, Kenimer, Angie, Ginnie; and

31 WHEREAS, Mrs. Lee D. Highsmith has given innumerable hours of her time, talents, and  
32 energy for the betterment of young people through Junior Achievement of Northeast Georgia  
33 and it is abundantly fitting and proper that this distinguished individual be recognized.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
35 recognize Mrs. Lee D. Highsmith for her exemplary service on behalf of the students of this  
36 state, commend her for her accomplishments as executive director of Junior Achievement  
37 of Northeast Georgia, and wish her many years of continued success.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
39 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mrs. Lee D. Highsmith.