

## Senate Resolution 629

By: Senators Hickman of the 4th, Kennedy of the 18th, Gooch of the 51st, Watson of the 1st and Hodges of the 3rd

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Rufus Earl Dabbs, Sr.; 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 Rufus Earl Dabbs, Sr., on December 31, 2023; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Rufus Earl Dabbs, Sr., was born in Screven County and later moved to Bulloch  
5 County; and
- 6 WHEREAS, earned a degree in accounting at the University of Georgia in 1959 and after  
7 graduating, he attended advanced taxation study under the Internal Revenue Service at  
8 Vanderbilt University in Tennessee; and
- 9 WHEREAS, he was a founding partner of the accounting firm Dabbs, Hickman, Hill, and  
10 Cannon where he worked for over 33 years; and
- 11 WHEREAS, he also contributed to his community by serving as chairman of the  
12 Development Authority of Bulloch County, chairman of the board of directors at Farmers  
13 and Merchants Bank, president of the Ogeechee Technical College Foundation, president of

14 the Statesboro-Bulloch County Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Bulloch  
15 Academy Board of Trustees; and

16 WHEREAS, he received numerous honors including the Deen Day Smith Service to  
17 Mankind Award and the Rotary Citizen of the Year award; and

18 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, he was an active member of the Statesboro  
19 First United Methodist Church where he had been a past chairman of the church's  
20 Administrative Board and Finance Committee; and

21 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Jewel Lucas Dabbs, and was  
22 blessed with three remarkable children, Earl, Kelly, and Julie; and nine wonderful  
23 grandchildren, Hannah, Sarah, Ava , Ryalie, Chandler, Jackson , Bailey, Sophie, and Celia;  
24 and

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

28 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
29 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he made of his life, he  
30 made this world a better place in which to live; and

31 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, he will long be remembered for his love  
32 of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who had the great fortune of  
33 knowing him.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
35 join in honoring the life and memory of Rufus Earl Dabbs, Sr., and express their deepest and  
36 most sincere regret at his passing.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
38 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of  
39 Rufus Earl Dabbs, Sr.