

Senate Resolution 740

By: Senators Burke of the 11th, Goodman of the 8th, Harper of the 7th, Walker III of the 20th, Sims of the 12th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Roger Spooner; 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 Roger Spooner on February 24, 2022; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Roger Spooner was born on November 18, 1922, in Iron City, Georgia, a
5 beloved son of Lewis Emory and Delia Jernigan Spooner; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
7 States Navy, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans during
8 World War II; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Roger began his naval career aboard the U.S.S. Yorktown, bound for Pearl
10 Harbor; from there, he arrived at the coast of Australia, where his carrier was damaged in the
11 Battle of the Coral Sea in May, 1942; later that year, the carrier and crew headed to Midway
12 Island and took part in the Battle of Midway, the most important battle of the Pacific, where
13 the carrier again was badly damaged and the crew ordered to abandon ship; and

14 WHEREAS, Roger spent another four years in the Navy, attending submarine school and
15 participating in nine war patrols out of Perth, Australia. After a motorcycle accident, he was
16 discharged as Motor Machinist Mate Second Class; and

17 WHEREAS, in 2017, Roger and other comrades from the United States and Australia were
18 recognized by President Trump and the Australian prime minister for the courage they
19 showed in the Battle of the Coral Sea in May, 1942; and

20 WHEREAS, after his service in the military, Roger returned home and founded Spooner
21 Farms Trucking LLC, which has continued its success as a family owned and operated
22 agriculture trucking company; and

23 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Roger was an active member of the First
24 Baptist Church of Donalsonville; and

25 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Eloise, and was blessed with
26 five remarkable children, Roger, Lewis, Thomas, David, and Dennis; and two wonderful
27 grandsons, Jacob and Richard; and

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

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

34 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Roger will long be remembered for his love
35 of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who had the great fortune of
36 knowing him.

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
38 join in honoring the life and memory of Roger Spooner and express their deepest and most
39 sincere regret at his passing.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
41 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of
42 Roger Spooner.