

The Senate Committee on Transportation offered the following substitute to SR 204:

A RESOLUTION

Dedicating certain portions of the state highway system; and for other purposes.

PART I

WHEREAS, our nation's security continues to rely on patriotic men and women who put their personal lives on hold in order to place themselves in harm's way to protect the freedoms that all United States citizens cherish; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kyle Gilbert demonstrated a deep personal commitment to protecting democracy and a willingness to sacrifice his own personal safety and comfort to ensure the well-being of his fellow man; and

WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United States Army, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans, and was killed in Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Mill Creek High School, Mr. Gilbert was a junior leader of his battalion and his commendations included the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon; and

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

WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. Gilbert will long be remembered for his love of family and friendship, and this loyal son, brother, and friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gilbert embodied the spirit of service, willing to find meaning in something greater than himself, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished American be recognized appropriately by dedicating a highway in his memory.

PART II

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of its finest citizens and civil rights activists on August 15, 2015, with the passing of Mr. Horace Julian Bond; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bond was born in Nashville, Tennessee, and raised in Pennsylvania while his father served as the first African American president of Lincoln University; and

WHEREAS, he attended Morehouse College in Atlanta, where he helped found *The Pegasus*, a literary magazine, and worked as an intern at *TIME* magazine; and

WHEREAS, during his time at Morehouse College, Mr. Bond was a founding member of the Committee on Appeal for Human Rights, led nonviolent student protests against segregation in Atlanta parks, restaurants, and movie theaters, and helped form the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in Raleigh, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bond was voted into the Georgia House of Representatives in 1965 but could not take his seat until court ordered action in 1967 because the legislature refused to swear him in due to his vocal opposition to the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, he served in the House of Representatives until 1975 and went on to serve in the Georgia Senate from 1975 to 1986, sponsoring more than 60 bills that were ratified into law during his tenure with the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bond served as president of the Southern Poverty Law Center from 1971 to 1979 and was an active member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from 1998 to 2010; and

WHEREAS, he served as a commentator for NBC's "Today" show, wrote a national newspaper column, and produced poems that have appeared in publications such as the *Nation* and the *New York Times*; and

WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished Georgian be recognized appropriately by dedicating a road in his honor.

PART III

WHEREAS, Samuel L. and LaTanya Jackson have long been recognized for their talent on stage and ability to bring joy and delight to audiences; and

WHEREAS, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, LaTanya Richardson Jackson was a student at Spelman College when she met her husband, Samuel, while he was attending Morehouse College; and

WHEREAS, Samuel has appeared in more than 100 films and is one of Hollywood's most respected actors, with an incredible career spanning five decades; and

WHEREAS, he is cool like Fonzie, starring as Jules, the philosopher hit man, in the cult classic *Pulp Fiction* and appearing in numerous other Quentin Tarantino films, including *The Hateful Eight*, *Kill Bill*, and *Django Unchained*; and

WHEREAS, his depth as an actor can be further demonstrated by his wide-ranging roles in movies such as *Jackie Brown*, *Jurassic Park*, *The Long Kiss Goodnight*, *A Time to Kill*, *The Incredibles*, *Do the Right Thing*, *Snakes on a Plane*, and the *Avengers* and *Star Wars* series; and

WHEREAS, a standout actress in her own right, LaTanya starred in the 2003 musical *The Fighting Temptations* and was nominated for a Tony Award for Best Lead Actress in a Play for her role in the 2013 performance of *A Raisin in the Sun*; and

WHEREAS, they are blessed with one remarkable daughter, Zoe Jackson, who is a freelance film and television producer; and

WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the members of this body recognize the lives and careers of these distinguished individuals by dedicating a road in their honor.

PART IV

WHEREAS, the Berrong family of Towns County, Georgia, has a rich history and tradition of service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jay Berrong served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United States military during World War II and was captured as a prisoner of war; and

77 WHEREAS, several members of the Berrong family sacrificed their own safety and comfort
78 to protect and serve this nation in the military; and

79 WHEREAS, Mr. Kris Berrong continues his family's tradition of service as a member of the
80 Hiawassee City Council; and

81 WHEREAS, Mr. Sanford Berrong ran the town store in High Tower while the Titus post
82 office was operated by Mr. Homer Berrong; and

83 WHEREAS, generations of the Berrong family have lived their entire lives near the bridge
84 on SR 2/US 76 near Clayton Mountain Road; and

85 WHEREAS, some of Towns County's first educators were members of the Berrong family
86 while Mr. Darren Berrong serves as the current superintendent for Towns County high
87 schools; and

88 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished
89 Georgia family be recognized appropriately by dedicating a bridge in their honor.

90 **PART V**

91 WHEREAS, Mr. Tyler Perry was born on September 13, 1969, in New Orleans, Louisiana;
92 and

93 WHEREAS, in 1998, his first musical, *I Know I've Been Changed*, premiered at the famous
94 Fox Theatre in Atlanta; in 2005, his first feature film, *Diary Of A Mad Black Woman*,
95 debuted at number one; and in 2006, he released his first book, *Don't Make A Black Woman
96 Take Off Her Earrings: Madea's Uninhibited Commentaries On Life And Love*, which
97 remained on the *New York Times* bestseller list for eight weeks; and

98 WHEREAS, in 2007, Mr. Perry's comedic talents delighted audiences worldwide with the
99 TBS series *House of Payne* and later with the series *Meet the Browns*, which were the highest
100 and second highest rated first-run syndicated cable shows of all time, respectively, and he
101 currently has four television series on Oprah Winfrey's network, OWN; and

102 WHEREAS, in 2008, he revitalized Delta Airlines' former headquarters and opened a
103 200,000 square foot studio in Atlanta that employs hundreds of Georgians, and in 2015,
104 Mr. Perry bought 330 acres of the former military base, Fort McPherson, on which he will

restore and construct state-of-the-art facilities that will open the door for local business opportunities and job creation in the motion picture and television industry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Perry strongly supports our state and national communities through charities such as Feeding America, Covenant House, Hosea Feed the Hungry, Project Adventure, Perry Place, and his own foundation, the Tyler Perry Foundation, which transforms tragedy into triumph by empowering economically disadvantaged youths, seniors, and families to overcome adversity by achieving a better quality of life; and

WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this remarkable and distinguished Georgian be recognized appropriately by dedicating a road in his honor.

PART VI

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the portion of State Route 20 from I-985 to State Route 13 in Gwinnett County is dedicated as the Kyle Gilbert Memorial Highway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ENACTED that the portion of State Route 129 from Cascade Road to State Route 14 (Whitehall Street) in Fulton County is dedicated as the Julian Bond Memorial Highway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ENACTED that the portion of the State Route 3 Connector from State Route 3/Northside/Metropolitan to State Route 14/154 Peters Street in Fulton County is dedicated as the Samuel L. and LaTanya Jackson Highway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ENACTED that the bridge on SR 2/US 76 located near Clayton Mountain Road running from Rabun County into Towns County is dedicated as the Berrong Bridge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ENACTED that the portion of Lee Street from the West End Mall to the entrance of Fort McPherson in Fulton County is dedicated as the Tyler Perry Highway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the road facilities named in this resolution.

133 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
134 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the Department of
135 Transportation; to Samuel L. and LaTanya Richardson Jackson, the Berrong family, and Mr.
136 Tyler Perry; and to the family of Mr. Kyle Gilbert and Mr. Horace Julian Bond.