

House Resolution 1704

By: Representatives Welch of the 110<sup>th</sup>, Strickland of the 111<sup>th</sup>, Rutledge of the 109<sup>th</sup>, Yates of the 73<sup>rd</sup>, Knight of the 130<sup>th</sup>, and others

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mr. James F. Risher, Jr., for his service in the United States Armed Forces; and  
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
4 with the passing of Mr. James F. Risher, Jr., on July 22, 1986; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. James F. Risher, Jr., was born on May 8, 1916, in Smoaks, South Carolina;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, he earned his bachelor's degree in English from the Citadel, the military college  
8 of South Carolina, in 1938 and a master's degree from the University of South Carolina; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Risher was united in love and marriage with Florence "Betty" Kahrs in  
10 1941; and

11 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United  
12 States Army as an infantry officer, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow  
13 Americans when serving with the Thirty-Sixth, Eighty-Fourth, and Fourth Infantry Division  
14 during World War II as a B-17 Bomber pilot in the Eighth Air Force, 401st Bombardment  
15 Group (Heavy), and he flew 32 combat missions; and

16 WHEREAS, upon returning home from combat duties, he served as a radar pilot instructor,  
17 an assignment at the Pentagon with United States Air Force Headquarters, and the  
18 Thirty-Sixth Fighter Wing in Panama and Germany during the Allied occupation; and

19 WHEREAS, while in Germany, he became the executive officer for the 7499th Composite  
20 Squadron; he served another United States Air Force Headquarters assignment as head of the  
21 manpower statistics office, and from 1954-1958 he was a professor of air science (ROTC)  
22 at North Carolina State University; and

23 WHEREAS, this was followed by a tour as deputy director of the 8313th Air Base Wing at  
24 Kadena, Okinawa, and the air force director of ground safety at Norton Air Force Base,  
25 California; his last assignment was with the Aerospace Studies Institute, Air University,  
26 Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama; and

27 WHEREAS, following his military career, Colonel Risher and his wife moved to Atlanta,  
28 Georgia, where he worked for Coastal States Insurance Company and the Georgia Safety  
29 Council for several years; and

30 WHEREAS, during his military career, Colonel Risher authored several professional studies  
31 and articles in air force publications; he is the author of *Interview With Honor*, a story of the  
32 famous Burr-Hamilton duel; and

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

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

39 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. James F. Risher, Jr., will long be  
40 remembered for his love of family and friendship and his service to our great nation, and he  
41 will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
43 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. James F. Risher, Jr.,  
44 express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing, and commend him for his  
45 outstanding dedication and courageous service in the military.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
47 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. James F.  
48 Risher, Jr.