

Senate Resolution 167

By: Senators Butler of the 55th, Rahman of the 5th and Islam of the 7th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 17, 2023, as Muhammad Ali Day; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Georgia is a state that embraces its great diversity, commits itself to equity and
3 inclusion for all communities, and honors individuals that dream, dedicate themselves, and
4 build for future generations; and

5 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali had an unrelenting spirit to dream: "Impossible is a not a fact.
6 It is an opinion. It is not a declaration. It is a dare. Impossible is potential"; and

7 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was brave: "What I suffered physically was worth what I have
8 accomplished in life. A man who is not courageous enough to take risks will never
9 accomplish anything in life." He persisted despite the physical harm and political opposition
10 he endured; and

11 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was humble: "I would like to be remembered as a person who
12 never looked down on those who looked up to him." He admitted he was a flawed human
13 being like everyone else, but he still strived to become a better person every day; and

14 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali demonstrated an inspiring work ethic, committed himself to
15 his passion for boxing, and never stopped working to achieve success; he won the Olympic
16 gold medal and the heavyweight title three times, and he won 56 matches in his 21-year
17 professional career, making him America's Champ; and

18 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was an inspiration for future generations; he knew becoming
19 America's Champ required discipline and said "don't count the days, make the days count."
20 He did not let distractions keep him from his goal; and

21 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was a true American Patriot: "All I can do is fight for truth and
22 justice." He would hold leaders that represented him to a standard of ethics; and

23 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was an example of a powerful American life; he represented
24 the power of a single individual voice embodying the values that create champions; and

25 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was committed to uniting our country and held deliberate
26 conversations with others who held opposing views: "I want to be remembered as a man who
27 tried to unite all humankind through faith and love"; and

28 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali showed perseverance, and even though he had Parkinson's
29 disease, which impaired his motor skills and speech later in his life, he continued his work
30 as a global humanitarian and a goodwill ambassador; and

31 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali was a dedicated philanthropist who helped people around the
32 world who were battling hunger, helped at local soup kitchens and hospitals, worked with
33 the Special Olympics and the Make A Wish Foundation around the world, and vocalized
34 support for Parkinson's disease research; and

35 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali had a commitment to service and faith: "Truly great people in
36 history never wanted to be great themselves. All they wanted was the chance to do good to
37 others and be close to God." He found strength in his faith; and

38 WHEREAS, Muhammad Ali, known as America's champ, was a devoted American Muslim
39 who brought honor to the United States by relying on the courage he found in his faith to
40 stand up against injustices worldwide.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
42 recognize January 17, 2023, as Muhammad Ali Day.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
44 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
45 press.