

**ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA 2021**

Act 299

House Resolution 144, Part XI

Effective May 10, 2021

**HENRY "HANK" LOUIS AARON MEMORIAL HIGHWAY — DESIGNATED.**

**A RESOLUTION**

To dedicate certain portions of the state highway system; to provide for an effective date; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of its finest citizens with the passing of Mr. Henry "Hank" Louis Aaron, Atlanta Braves legend and baseball's homerun king, who passed away on January 22, 2021, at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Aaron was born in Mobile, Alabama, on February 5, 1934, the third of Herbert and Estella Aaron's eight children; and

WHEREAS, a Hall of Famer, Atlanta's first professional sports star, and, in a soft-spoken way, an agent of change in the post-Jim Crow South, Mr. Aaron came to embody Atlanta as he embodied the Braves; and

WHEREAS, nicknamed Hammerin' Hank, Mr. Aaron's record of 755 home runs hardly does justice to his extraordinary career, for he retired with 23 major league records; and

WHEREAS, he was the all-time RBI leader with 2,297, racked up the most extra-base hits with 1,477, and finished in the top three for at-bats with 12,364, runs with 2,174 (tied with Babe Ruth), games with 3,298, and hits with 3,771; and

WHEREAS, he averaged only 63 strikeouts per season and retired with a career .305 batting average; and

WHEREAS, a 20-time All-Star and a three-time Gold Glove winner, Mr. Aaron won the 1957 National League Most Valuable Player award and was rushed to Cooperstown on the first-ballot in 1982; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Aaron lived in Atlanta, Georgia, where he was considered one of the city's most successful entrepreneurs, owning several car dealerships and Krispy Kreme doughnut franchises; and

WHEREAS, throughout his business career, Mr. Aaron held to his philosophy to help other African Americans succeed; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife Billye; their children Gaile, Hank, Jr., Lary, Dorinda, and Ceci; and his grandchildren; and

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA, that the portion of State Route 154 in Fulton County, from Polaris Way SW, to Interstate 285, is dedicated as the Henry "Hank" Louis Aaron Memorial Highway.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized and directed to make appropriate copies of this Resolution available for distribution to the Department of Transportation and to the family of Mr. Henry "Hank" Louis Aaron.

This Resolution shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.