

A RESOLUTION BY THE STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD OF GEORGIA 1997

JACKIE ROBINSON MEMORIAL PARKWAY — DESIGNATED.

WHEREAS, Jackie Roosevelt Robinson was born in 1919 in Grady County, Georgia, and rose to great heights in Major League baseball and in human dignity; and

WHEREAS, he did not let taunts and hate shackle his ambition, but went on to letter in football, basketball, baseball, and track at the University of California, where he was the first athlete to letter in four sports; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Robinson challenged the deeply-rooted racial segregation of the turbulent 1940's and 1950's with strong Christian conviction, intelligence, integrity and dignity, and won the battle for all the black baseball players who would follow him into the major leagues; and

WHEREAS, he won the respect of teammates, opposing players and fans with his quiet intensity on and off the field, saying, "I am not concerned with you liking or disliking me. All I ask is that you respect me as a human being." He said of his historic role, "Life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives"; and

WHEREAS, he brought recognition to his native state by being named Rookie of the Year in 1947, winning the National League's Most Valuable Player award in 1949, and achieving a lifetime batting average of .311.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in recognition of the 50th anniversary of this great American's ascent to major league baseball, that section of State Route 93 from U.S. 319 at Moncrief to U.S. Highway 84 be designated the Jackie Robinson Memorial Parkway to remind all who pass that way of his contributions to society.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting, and an appropriate copy be presented to Mr. Robinson's family. The Commissioner of Transportation is instructed to install signage designating this section of roadway the Jackie Robinson Memorial Parkway.

Adopted this 17th day of July, 1997.