

Senate Resolution 740

By: Senators James of the 35th, Davenport of the 44th, Fort of the 39th, Henson of the 41st,  
Tate of the 38th and others

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life of Private First Class Melvin Johnson and dedicating a bridge in his  
2 memory; and for other purposes.

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

6 WHEREAS, a native of Douglas County, Georgia, Private First Class Melvin Johnson was  
7 born on February 16, 1949, the beloved son of Loren Johnson; and

8 WHEREAS, Private First Class Johnson was a loving brother to his siblings, Willie, Tony,  
9 and Vicki; and

10 WHEREAS, a graduate of R.L. Cousins High School in 1966, Private First Class Johnson  
11 became an infantry soldier with the United States Armed Forces in November, 1968; and

12 WHEREAS, he lost his life in combat protecting the freedoms that all United States citizens  
13 cherish in Binh Duong Province, South Vietnam; and

14 WHEREAS, Private First Class Johnson was the first African American soldier from  
15 Douglasville, Georgia, to die in Vietnam and was the second fallen soldier from Douglas  
16 County; and

17 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the extraordinary accomplishments of  
18 this distinguished Georgian be recognized by naming a bridge in his honor.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ENACTED BY THE GENERAL  
20 ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the bridge on State Route 166 over Anneewakee Creek in  
21 Douglas County is dedicated as the Private First Class Melvin Johnson Memorial Bridge.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is authorized and  
23 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs dedicating the Private First Class Melvin  
24 Johnson Memorial Bridge.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
26 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the family of Private First Class Melvin  
27 Johnson and to the Department of Transportation.