

House Resolution 139

By: Representative Smith of the 134th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Sam R. Cunningham; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Sam R. Cunningham began his career in Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
3 in 1974 as Emergency Medical Technician #1,740 and Paramedic #359 in Elbert County,
4 Georgia, and has dedicated his entire career to the improvement of EMS in Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, he was promoted to EMS director in Elbert County in 1978, where he served
6 for 12 years, and where his service, Elbert County EMS, was recognized as the top EMS
7 Service in the United States in 1980; and

8 WHEREAS, he became a charter member of the Northeast Georgia EMS Council in 1977,
9 where he served as either chairman or secretary for more than 15 years, and continues to
10 work with the EMS Council in Region 7 (Columbus); and

11 WHEREAS, he became a charter member of the EMS Directors Association of Georgia in
12 1979, where he served in various capacities including chairman and secretary, and continues
13 to be an active member of the Georgia Association of EMS; and

14 WHEREAS, he has worked at the State Office of EMS for more than two decades, where he
15 served faithfully as EMS program director for Region 10 (Athens) from 1990-1997, state
16 director of EMS from 1997 until 1999, and as the EMS program director for Region 7
17 (Columbus) since 1999; and

18 WHEREAS, he has assisted in setting up emergency preparedness programs and classes, was
19 involved in the Summer Olympics (1996) and the G-8 Summit (2004), and has worked
20 faithfully and continually to provide 24 hour emergency response during winter storms; and

21 WHEREAS, he has promoted educational and injury-prevention programs and has made
22 numerous contributions in EMS so that the EMS System in Georgia is among the most
23 professional and well-respected in the country; and

24 WHEREAS, he has received numerous awards, including the John Steed EMT of the Year
25 for Northeast Georgia (1989); the Dr. John B. O'Neal, III, EMS Pioneer Award (1996); the
26 Dr. Zeb L. Burrell, Jr. Distinguished Service Award (1998); and the Governor's Public Safety
27 Award for Contribution to the Profession (2002); and

28 WHEREAS, he has always been deeply devoted to his wife of 37 years, Mary, his daughter
29 Kristin, and his son Jason, and has remained true to family values of the highest order.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 members of this body commend Sam R. Cunningham for his four decades of service towards
32 the development of Emergency Medical Services in Georgia and his leadership and
33 conscientious attention to detail that has garnered him respect and admiration from follow
34 EMS Professionals and citizens of the State of Georgia.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Sam R. Cunningham.