

House Resolution 679

By: Representative Burns of the 159<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Kevin Riley upon his retirement; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Kevin Riley has served as editor-in-chief of *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*  
3 for 12 years, the longest such tenure for a lead editor among this nation's major metropolitan  
4 newspapers; and

5 WHEREAS, the son of a Cleveland police officer, he began his journalistic career as a  
6 part-time copy editor at the *Dayton Daily News* while still in college, securing employment  
7 at the paper's copy desk in 1984 after his graduation; and

8 WHEREAS, he rose through the paper's ranks to the position of editor-in-chief before  
9 leaving in 2011 to join *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, and he stands as the only individual  
10 in the history of Cox Enterprises to have served as top editor in both Dayton and Atlanta; and

11 WHEREAS, while at *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, he has overseen work that made the  
12 paper a finalist for The Pulitzer Prize in 2017, won three Emmy awards, and won the 2021  
13 Edward R. Murrow Award in recognition of the paper's reporting on a decades-old murder  
14 that helped free a wrongfully convicted man; and

15 WHEREAS, this distinguished gentleman has given inspiration to many through his high  
16 ideals, morals, and deep concern for his fellow citizens, and he possesses the vast wisdom  
17 which only comes through experience and the strength of character which is achieved  
18 through overcoming the many challenges of life; and

19 WHEREAS, he is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for  
20 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; and

21 WHEREAS, Kevin Riley has served with honor and distinction as editor-in-chief of *The*  
22 *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, and his vision and unyielding commitment to journalistic  
23 integrity, ethics, and excellence will be sorely missed upon the occasion of his retirement;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
26 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
28 the members of this body recognize and commend Kevin Riley for his many wonderful years  
29 of service to *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*; congratulate him upon the grand occasion of  
30 his retirement; and extend the most sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
32 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Kevin  
33 Riley.