



# THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER

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BY THE GOVERNOR:

### FLAGS ON STATE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS ORDERED LOWERED TO HALF STAFF

- WHEREAS:** Today the State of Georgia mourns the loss of the Honorable Thomas B. Murphy, the 69<sup>th</sup> Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives; and
- WHEREAS:** Thomas B. Murphy was born in Bremen, Georgia on March 10, 1924; and
- WHEREAS:** Thomas B. Murphy graduated from North Georgia College in 1943 and earned his law degree from the University of Georgia in 1949; and
- WHEREAS:** Thomas B. Murphy honorably served his country in the United States Navy during World War II; and
- WHEREAS:** In 1960, Thomas B. Murphy was first elected to the Georgia House of Representatives; and served as Floor Leader to Governor Lester Maddox from 1967 – 1970; as Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives from 1970 – 1973; and as Speaker from 1973-2003, making him the longest serving Speaker in Georgia history, and at the end of his tenure, the longest tenured Speaker of a state legislature in the United States; and
- WHEREAS:** Speaker Thomas B. Murphy was a public servant who always fought for the children of Georgia, our veterans, and the disabled; and
- WHEREAS:** Thomas B. Murphy was a dominant figure in Georgia politics and his spirit will forever be a part of Georgia's General Assembly.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IN HONOR AND AS A MARK OF RESPECT FOR THE MEMORY OF SPEAKER THOMAS B. MURPHY, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY**

**ORDERED:**

That the flag of the United States and the flag of this State be flown at half-staff on all buildings and grounds from this date until sunset on the day of his funeral.

This 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2007.

  
GOVERNOR