

PAUL COVERDELL

WHEREAS: July 18, 2010 marks the 10th anniversary of the passing of United States Senator Paul Coverdell. In the decade since we lost him, it is even more evident how important Senator Coverdell was to Georgia; and

WHEREAS: Paul Coverdell was a native of Des Moines, Iowa who moved to Georgia with his family as a teenager. He attended Georgia State University but graduated from the University of Missouri in 1961. After service in the U.S. Army, he returned to Atlanta, Georgia and began his private sector career in insurance; and

WHEREAS: In 1970, he ran for a seat in the Georgia State Senate, where he served the citizens of north Fulton County and the state of Georgia until 1989. He was elected the Senate's minority leader in 1974 and led in this role throughout the rest of his tenure in the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS: Paul Coverdell revitalized the U.S. Peace Corps as its director from 1989 until 1991, during which the Corps' volunteer ranks grew significantly. He then successfully ran for the U.S. Senate in 1992. Among his key pieces of legislation was the bill to allow pre-tax contributions to education savings accounts, now known as Coverdell Education Savings Accounts; and

WHEREAS: Senator Coverdell worked to make our state and nation safer, more vibrant, prosperous and compassionate. His leadership and service helped move Georgia forward; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the state of Georgia, do hereby remember and honor the legacy of PAUL COVERDELL on this 10th anniversary of his passing and join with Senator Saxby Chambliss and Senator Johnny Isakson in paying tribute to one of Georgia's greatest statesmen.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 20th day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand ten.