

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 600 East First Street in Rome, Georgia, as the “Harold L. Murphy Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. WARNOCK) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 600 East First Street in Rome, Georgia, as the “Harold L. Murphy Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Judge Harold L. Murphy was born in
6 Felton, Georgia, in 1927.

1 (2) He attended West Georgia College before
2 serving in the United States Navy during the closing
3 years of World War II.

4 (3) He resumed his studies at the University of
5 Mississippi and the University of Georgia School of
6 Law, where he graduated in 1949.

7 (4) He began a law practice in Haralson Coun-
8 ty, Georgia, and in 1950 was elected to the Georgia
9 House of Representatives as the youngest Member
10 at the time.

11 (5) Judge Murphy served five consecutive terms
12 before stepping down in 1961 to focus on practicing
13 law.

14 (6) In 1971, Judge Murphy was appointed by
15 Governor Jimmy Carter to the Superior Court for
16 the Tallapoosa Judicial Circuit, and following his
17 election in 1976, President Carter nominated Judge
18 Murphy to the United States District Court for the
19 Northern District of Georgia.

20 (7) Judge Murphy was confirmed by the United
21 States Senate on July 28, 1977.

22 (8) For 45 years, he served his country on the
23 Federal bench and became an acclaimed jurist and
24 legal icon with a stellar reputation that extended far
25 beyond Georgia.

1 (9) He always displayed a quick wit and a keen
2 sense of humor, was kind and empathetic, and treat-
3 ed all those who appeared before him with courtesy
4 and respect.

5 (10) Judge Murphy worked tirelessly and car-
6 ried a full docket until the age of 90, when he took
7 senior judge status in the Northern District of Geor-
8 gia.

9 (11) He continued to preside over cases until
10 his death on December 28, 2022.

11 (12) Judge Murphy received many professional
12 awards and recognitions, including from the State
13 Bar of Georgia and the University of Georgia School
14 of Law.

15 (13) In 2014, Alabama State University re-
16 named its graduate school after Judge Murphy in
17 recognition of his landmark ruling in Knight v. Ala-
18 bama, a long-running case that the Eleventh Circuit
19 Court of Appeals asked him to handle involving the
20 vestiges of racial segregation then present in the
21 Alabama University System.

22 (14) Above all else, Judge Murphy was a loving
23 and devoted husband and father—and a strong role
24 model.

1 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION.**

2 The Federal building and United States courthouse
3 located at 600 East First Street in Rome, Georgia, shall
4 be known and designated as the “Harold L. Murphy Fed-
5 eral Building and United States Courthouse”.

6 **SEC. 3. REFERENCES.**

7 Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document,
8 paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal
9 building and United States courthouse referred to in sec-
10 tion 2 shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Harold
11 L. Murphy Federal Building and United States Court-
12 house”.