

Senate Resolution 674

By: Senator James of the 35th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the achievements of the Reverend Herman "Skip" Mason, Jr., during the occasion
2 of Black History Month; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend Herman "Skip" Mason, Jr., is the pastor of the Greater Hopewell
4 CME Church in the Mechanicsville community and is Associate Vice President of Student
5 Affairs at Morris Brown College, where he also teaches a course in the department of history
6 and manages the school's archives; and

7 WHEREAS, an Atlanta native, he received his secondary education in the Atlanta Public
8 School system, his bachelor of arts degree in communications and history from Morris
9 Brown College, masters degree in library and information science from Clark Atlanta
10 University, and is currently enrolled in the doctoral program at Union University. Rev.
11 Mason also trained at the CME Church Ministers Institute and was awarded his certification
12 in archival studies from the Archives Institute of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library; and

13 WHEREAS, at the age of 14, Alex Haley's epic miniseries "Roots" motivated him to
14 research his own family history and to teach others how to conduct this type of research; and

15 WHEREAS, he officially began his career in historical research in 1983 working with the
16 Herndon Home Museum in Atlanta, and went on to work for the United States Department
17 of the Interior interpreting the historical significance and genealogical background of the
18 Martin Luther King family, much of which is found in publications documenting Dr. King's
19 life; and

20 WHEREAS, in addition to working for the Atlanta Fulton Public Library special collections
21 department as the black studies librarian and archivist, he is the founder and president of
22 "Digging It Up, Incorporated," a nationally recognized African American research and
23 consulting firm, and has authored several books, produced a variety of videos, and has served
24 as a consultant on numerous projects and exhibits, including being the historian and technical

1 advisor for the successful 1998 television miniseries "Mama Flora's Family" based on Alex
2 Haley's final story; and

3 WHEREAS, Rev. Mason also writes a weekly column for the *Atlanta Daily World*
4 *Newspaper* and is a member of numerous civic organizations; and

5 WHEREAS, Rev. Mason is the loving husband to evangelist Harmel Codi-Mason and proud
6 father of their daughter, Jewel.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that this body honors the
8 Reverend Herman "Skip" Mason, Jr., during the occasion of Black History Month and
9 expresses its gratitude for his beneficial services on behalf of the citizens of the State of
10 Georgia.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
12 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Herman "Skip" Mason, Jr.