

Senate Resolution 862

By: Senator Williams of the 6th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Longleaf Pine Capital of Georgia; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Baxley, Georgia, in Appling County is home to Moody Forest where the Nature
3 Conservancy recently purchased 3,500 acres of land bordering the Altamaha River, that land
4 being the only known example of old-growth longleaf pine and blackjack oak forest in North
5 America; and

6 WHEREAS, in the 1700's, longleaf pines covered more than 90 million acres across the
7 Southeast and, today, less than 3 percent of the original forest remains; and

8 WHEREAS, a longleaf pine can reach over 120 feet tall with a trunk exceeding 3 feet across,
9 and the longleaf pine has the longest needles (10-18") and the largest cones (6-10") of the
10 southern pines; and

11 WHEREAS, the longleaf pine ecosystem supports more than 300 rare, threatened, or
12 endangered plant and animal species, and longleaf pine forests are more disease and
13 fire-resistant and can be managed with prescribed burns to maintain a healthy, viable
14 ecosystem.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
16 commend Baxley, Georgia, as the host of the Timber Harvesting Expo Southeast and the
17 Baxley Tree Fest and recognize Baxley and Appling County as the Longleaf Pine Capital of
18 Georgia.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
20 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Lynn Carter, Executive Director of
21 Baxley-Appling County Board of Tourism.