

Senate Resolution 945

By: Senator Jackson of the 50th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commemorating and honoring the 40th anniversary and significant achievements of the
- 2 administration of Governor S. Ernest Vandiver.
- 3 WHEREAS, 2002 marks the 40th anniversary of one of the most astounding legislative
- 4 sessions in Georgia's storied history, during which were enacted many remarkable
- 5 achievements proposed by Governor S. Ernest Vandiver in his final year in office; and
- 6 WHEREAS, his leadership was demonstrated in his recommending a constitutional
- 7 amendment requiring biennial appropriations bills, limiting appropriations to no more than
- 8 state revenues, capping debt obligations not to exceed 15 percent of the budget, and creating
- 9 a system of legislative budget controls; and
- 10 WHEREAS, House Bill 1, known as the "Honesty in Government" bill, was enacted to rid
- 11 state government of corruption and ill-advised procurement practices; and
- 12 WHEREAS, the integration of Georgia's public schools stands as a landmark of his vision
- 13 and leadership as, under intense public opposition, schools were opened to students of all
- 14 races; and
- 15 WHEREAS, focused attention, legislation, and budget resources were devoted to the state's
- 16 role in mental health, making this the first of many reforms which succeeding Governors
- 17 embraced and sustained, now making Georgia a leader in the administration of mental health
- 18 services and programs; and
- 19 WHEREAS, he led the first concentrated strategy to promote the state's tourism industry by
- 20 starting the "Welcome Center" program; and

1 WHEREAS, he understood and supported international trade opportunities as evidenced by
2 purchasing properties in Savannah and Brunswick for ports and he led a business delegation
3 to Europe promoting the advantages of those ports; and

4 WHEREAS, the Vandiver administration capped a 15 year stint in public service; he and his
5 lovely wife, former first lady Betty Russell Vandiver, now reside in their beloved Lavonia
6 with their family.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that this body remembers the
8 advancement and leadership of S. Ernest Vandiver as one of Georgia's most progressive
9 Governors and honors the 40th anniversary of his administration.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
11 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Governor S. Ernest Vandiver.