

Senate Resolution 950

By: Senator Thomas of the 2nd

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing the First African Baptist Church of East Savannah; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, First African Baptist Church of East Savannah has enjoyed a long and  
3 honorable history within the community of East Savannah; and
- 4 WHEREAS, from the second through the seventh of April, 2002, the congregation of First  
5 African Baptist Church of East Savannah will celebrate the dedication of a new sanctuary;  
6 and
- 7 WHEREAS, this joyful occasion will undoubtedly be a day of remembrance of times past  
8 and a day to honor the intrepid faith of the church's forebears; and
- 9 WHEREAS, the church was first organized in 1897 by 42 dedicated Christians, including  
10 Brother Samuel Fox and Brother William "Billy" Moultrie, under the leadership of Reverend  
11 Edward C. Johnson; and
- 12 WHEREAS, in 1898, the original church was destroyed by a storm; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the faithful members rebuilt the church and the congregation began to grow;  
14 and
- 15 WHEREAS, that church building was again destroyed by a storm in August, 1940, and a new  
16 building was dedicated on September 17, 1950; and
- 17 WHEREAS, throughout the years of change and growth, First African Baptist Church of East  
18 Savannah has been a locus of stability, providing a spiritual home for its members and its  
19 community; and

1 WHEREAS, under the leadership of the 14 distinguished men who have served as its pastor,  
2 including the present pastor, the esteemed Reverend Thomas E. Williams, First African  
3 Baptist Church of East Savannah has for nearly 105 years celebrated the hope of new births,  
4 the joy of marriage unions, the sorrow of separation, and the everyday experiences of the  
5 lives of its members.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
7 recognize the special heritage of the First African Baptist Church of East Savannah, rejoice  
8 with them on this wonderful occasion, the second through the seventh of April, 2002, as they  
9 dedicate a new sanctuary, and express to them their hope for continued success in Christian  
10 service.

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 Thomas E. Williams.