

Senate Resolution 199

By: Senator Gillis of the 20th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and work of Barbara Mentzer Mason and expressing regret at her passing;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, Barbara Mason was born January 2, 1937, and
4 spent her life making her community, her state, and her nation a better, cleaner place; and

5 WHEREAS, Mrs. Mason always had an appreciation for the beauty around her and wanted
6 to preserve it for her children and grandchildren; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1978, Barbara Mason became the first director of Georgia Clean and
8 Beautiful which was later named Keep Georgia Beautiful, the umbrella group for local
9 organizations who focus on litter prevention, waste management, recycling and other
10 environmental education efforts; and

11 WHEREAS, Keep Georgia Beautiful grew from 15 affiliates in 1978 to 50 during Mrs.
12 Mason's ten years of administration and has now grown to 63 affiliates statewide serving 75
13 percent of the population of Georgia; and

14 WHEREAS, Mrs. Mason's vision for a clean Georgia led Georgia to be named the cleanest
15 state in the nation by Keep America Beautiful in 1984 for which Mrs. Mason was given
16 much of the credit for organizing local efforts across the state and getting everyone from
17 school children to business people to clean up litter; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1999, Mrs. Mason was honored by the Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation
19 who created an award bearing the name the "Barbara Mason Award" which will be given
20 annually to the Executive Director of a local Keep Georgia Beautiful program who is
21 resourceful, dedicated, and committed to the ideals of Keep America Beautiful; and

1 WHEREAS, Barbara Mason was loved and respected by the many Georgians and Americans
2 who knew her and has left us with a legacy of environmental stewardship; and

3 WHEREAS, the very dynamic person we knew is no longer here with us, but her work is
4 carried on by thousands of people daily; and

5 WHEREAS, her passing leaves a hole in the fabric of her family, her community, her state,
6 and her nation which will only be filled with appropriate tributes and fond memories.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
8 express their condolences to the family of Barbara Mentzer Mason over her passing and
9 honor her accomplishments and her goodness while recognizing that it is people like Barbara
10 Mason who make Georgia the best place in the world to live, work, and raise a family.

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 the family of Barbara Mentzer Mason.