

Senate Resolution 228

By: Senator Jackson of the 50th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending and honoring Piedmont College, the City of Demorest, and Major League
2 Baseball for contributing to the opening of the Johnny Mize Athletic Center; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Demorest, Georgia, is the proud home of baseball's great player, Johnny Mize
5 (1913-1993); and

6 WHEREAS, 50 years ago, Mize rewrote baseball's record books by hitting 51 home runs in
7 one season while striking out fewer than 50 times, by becoming the only major league
8 baseball player to hit three home runs in a game six times, by being named the 1952 World
9 Series Most Valuable Player, and by becoming the first player to hit a home run in three
10 consecutive World Series games; and

11 WHEREAS, Mize, affectionately known as "The Big Cat," revered his hometown of
12 Demorest in northeast Georgia where a historical marker proclaims his professional
13 accomplishments and where a granite marker highlights his baseball career; and

14 WHEREAS, Piedmont College, nestled in the heart of Demorest, named its new 51,000
15 square foot the "Johnny Mize Athletic Center," which opened in the summer of 2000; and

16 WHEREAS, the center houses the baseball memorabilia collected by Mize and donated to
17 the college by his children, Judi and Jim Mize; and

18 WHEREAS, a special fund drive was established to house the Mize collection, ably chaired
19 by Charles Loudermilk of Atlanta and cochaired by Senator Zell Miller and former Senator
20 John Foster; and

21 WHEREAS, in 1991, Mize was voted into the prestigious Baseball Hall of Fame in
22 Cooperstown, New York; and

1 WHEREAS, his home place, called "Diamond Acre," where he was born and died, remains
2 vibrant today; and

3 WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that Piedmont College, the City of Demorest, and Major
4 League Baseball should be commended for this wonderful tribute to a phenomenal baseball
5 legend.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
7 commend and honor Piedmont College, the City of Demorest, and Major League Baseball
8 for their contributions to honoring Johnny Mize, a great baseball player and a great Georgian.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
10 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Piedmont College, the City of Demorest,
11 and Major League Baseball.