

Senate Resolution 240

By: Senator Brown of the 26th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the Reverend James Lorenzo Key during the occasion of Black History Month; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend James Lorenzo Key was a true public servant and a civil rights
4 pioneer who selflessly dedicated his talents and abilities in service to his fellow citizens; and

5 WHEREAS, a native of Dooly County, Georgia, Reverend Key was an esteemed leader in
6 Bibb County during the civil rights movement; and

7 WHEREAS, in the midst of the turbulence of change in the 1960's, Reverend Key provided
8 a peaceful but relentless voice that evoked a vision of equality and justice for all of this
9 state's citizens; and

10 WHEREAS, he served as president of the Macon chapter of the NAACP for two years, and
11 he, in concert with four other Macon ministers, took a courageous stand against segregation
12 by initiating and staging the Macon bus boycott during the 1960's; and

13 WHEREAS, the bus boycott was a landmark event which changed the course of the history
14 of the City of Macon; and

15 WHEREAS, Reverend Key also took a leading role in negotiations which led to the
16 desegregation of the Macon Hospital and of doctors' offices throughout the City of Macon;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Reverend Key's leadership and influence were also major factors in the
19 agreements which led to many improvements for the residents of the Unionville area,
20 including the building of the Unionville Recreation Center; and

1 WHEREAS, in the wake of the fearless service of Reverend Key, and others like him, came
2 changes of unforeseen magnitude which have completely transformed middle Georgia, both
3 socially and politically; and

4 WHEREAS, all those who have come after him, for whom he has paved the way, and who
5 have been the beneficiaries of his generous efforts owe him a debt of gratitude.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body,
7 during the occasion of Black History Month, remember and honor the Reverend James
8 Lorenzo Key and celebrate his outstanding achievements on behalf of the citizens of the City
9 of Macon and the State of Georgia.

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 Reverend James Lorenzo Key.