

Senate Resolution 242

By: Senator Brown of the 26<sup>th</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the Reverend Van J. Malone, Sr., during the occasion of Black History Month; and  
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, a native of Enterprise, Mississippi, and a pastor since 1934, Reverend Van J.  
4 Malone, Sr., was a pioneer in the movement to improve race relations, to end segregation,  
5 and to secure the civil rights of African Americans; and

6 WHEREAS, a fearless leader who championed the cause of equality relentlessly, he served  
7 at various times as president of the local chapters of the NAACP in Jackson, Tennessee,  
8 Memphis, Tennessee, and Macon, Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, he led the efforts which resulted in the desegregation of Memphis State  
10 University in 1955; and

11 WHEREAS, Reverend Malone has left an indelible mark on the history of the City of Macon  
12 and all of middle Georgia as one of five Macon ministers who deliberately defied the bus  
13 segregation laws in effect in the 1960s and by their courageous act set off a chain of events  
14 that led to a city-wide bus boycott and the subsequent dismantling of the system of  
15 segregation; and

16 WHEREAS, Reverend Malone's heroic deeds and willing sacrifices helped to lay the  
17 foundation for the social and political diversity that characterizes middle Georgia today and  
18 to him is owed a debt of gratitude.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
20 honor and commend Reverend Van J. Malone, Sr., during the occasion of Back History  
21 Month and express their appreciation for his outstanding service to the State of Georgia.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
- 2 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Van J. Malone, Sr.