

Senate Resolution 453

By: Senator Fort of the 39<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Expressing regret at the untimely passing of Mr. Anthony Flanagan; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of its most distinguished citizens with the passing  
3 of Mr. Anthony Flanagan on January 12, 2001; and
- 4 WHEREAS, he was born in Atlanta of the late Thomas and Odessa Flanagan, and he began  
5 his athletic career playing football on a coal strewn field at the corner of Coleman and  
6 Stephens streets in Atlanta's Pittsburgh community, where only the toughest played; and
- 7 WHEREAS, in football try-outs in the fifth grade, Anthony, always selfless and eager to be  
8 a part of the team, volunteered to play center while other boys vied for the "skilled"  
9 positions; and
- 10 WHEREAS, he was seen in a pick-up touch football game and his coaches recognized his  
11 talent and from then on he played only quarterback except for a brief stint as defensive back  
12 during his junior year; and
- 13 WHEREAS, at Southwest High School, he became a three-sport star, being named All  
14 American in football, basketball, and baseball, and after being the most heavily recruited  
15 athlete in the state, he decided to attend the University of Georgia, where he was a basketball  
16 standout and played football during his junior year, becoming the first black athlete to play  
17 the position of quarterback at the school; and
- 18 WHEREAS, after college, he went on to play for the Hawaii Volcanos basketball team, the  
19 San Francisco 49ers, and the Boston Breakers of the USFL, and, when his professional career  
20 was over, he returned to Atlanta to coach at the John F. Kennedy Middle School, where he  
21 soon became a favorite of the kids; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Flanagan is survived by his wife, Rosalyn Flanagan, two sons, Antione  
2 Flanagan who is stationed in Norfolk, Virginia, with the U.S. Navy, and Darius Gilmer of  
3 High Point, North Carolina, and one grandson, Qwa' Darius Walker of Marietta.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
5 express regret at the untimely passing of Mr. Anthony Flanagan and convey condolences to  
6 his grieving family and friends.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
8 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mrs. Rosalyn Flanagan.