

Senate Resolution 1174

By: Senator Meyer von Bremen of the 12th

A RESOLUTION

1 Remembering and honoring the life of the Reverend Dr. John Rowan Claypool IV; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. John Rowan Claypool IV was born on December 15, 1930,
4 in Franklin, Kentucky, to Mary Etta Buchanan and John Rowan Claypool, Jr.; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Claypool and his sister, Marie Claypool Piper, grew up in Nashville,
6 Tennessee, where he was a faithful member of Belmont Heights Baptist Church; and

7 WHEREAS, a highly active student, he graduated from Hillsboro High School in Nashville
8 in 1948; and

9 WHEREAS, he received his undergraduate degree in philosophy from Baylor University in
10 Waco, Texas, and his Doctorate of Theology from Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville,
11 Kentucky, and continued his education in theology at the Episcopal Theological Seminary
12 of the Southwest in Austin, Texas; and

13 WHEREAS, widely respected and admired, Dr. Claypool received honorary degrees from
14 Georgetown College in Kentucky, Mars Hill College in North Carolina, Baylor University
15 in Texas, Wake Forest University in North Carolina, The University of the South in
16 Tennessee, and The Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest in Texas; and

17 WHEREAS, he was ordained to the Southern Baptist ministry in 1953 and served as pastor
18 of five Baptist churches in Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas, and Mississippi; and

19 WHEREAS, in 1986, he was ordained an Episcopal priest and served as rector of St. Luke's
20 Episcopal Church in Birmingham, Alabama, until his retirement from full-time parish
21 ministry in 2000; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Claypool served part time as theologian-in-residence at Trinity Episcopal
2 Church in New Orleans, Louisiana, from 2001 to 2003 and as an associate priest at All Saints
3 Episcopal Church in Atlanta, Georgia, since 2003; and

4 WHEREAS, beginning in 2000, Dr. Claypool taught at Mercer University's McAfee School
5 of Theology in Atlanta as a professor of preaching; and

6 WHEREAS, a prolific writer, Dr. Claypool authored 11 books and was a nationally respected
7 and sought after speaker; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Claypool was a much beloved husband to Ann Claypool, a cherished father
9 to John Rowan Claypool V and the late Laura Lue Claypool, stepfather to Laura and Charles
10 T. Williams, grandfather to John Rowan Claypool VI, brother to Marie Claypool Piper, and
11 a friend, colleague, and minister to many; and

12 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost an accomplished author, teacher, minister, priest, and
13 beloved man of grace on September 3, 2005, with the passing of the Reverend Dr. John
14 Rowan Claypool IV.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
16 join in remembering and honoring the extraordinary life of the Reverend Dr. John Rowan
17 Claypool IV and extend their most sincere condolences to his family and friends.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
19 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of the Reverend Dr. John
20 Rowan Claypool IV.