

Senate Resolution 1258

By: Senator Butler of the 55th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Morty Buckles; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Morty Buckles, a native of Decatur, Georgia, has a degree in mechanical
3 engineering and is an experienced corporate executive, a family man, a role model, an
4 experienced corporate spokesperson, and a champion caliber race car driver; and

5 WHEREAS, having begun his driving career at the age of eight, Morty has distinguished
6 himself at every level of racing; and

7 WHEREAS, Morty's racing career began with go-carts, winning 22 races in his first year and
8 thereafter winning 161 races out of 252 starts; and

9 WHEREAS, Morty credits his father for much of his racing success as it was his father who
10 purchased and maintained his winning go-carts and on his early race cars served as Morty's
11 crew chief; and

12 WHEREAS, from 1995 to 1998, Morty competed in the Sportsman and Late Model Stock
13 divisions at Lanier National Speedway where he accumulated an excellent finishing record
14 in his first year; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1999, he competed in seven events at Concord Motor Sports Park in the
16 PARTS Pro Truck division, accumulating several top five finishes, including the "Hard
17 Charger" award for passing the most trucks during a race; and

18 WHEREAS, in 2000, he attended the Skip Barber Racing School where he was the fastest
19 driver in his class; and

1 WHEREAS, Morty has participated in the NASCAR Winston Weekly racing series at a
2 number of levels, including a stint as the driver of the Dr. Pepper Late Model Stock Car in
3 2001; and

4 WHEREAS, Morty ran a schedule consisting of 18 major races at various tracks, including
5 Concord Motor Sports Park, New River Valley Speedway, South Boston Speedway,
6 Martinsville Speedway, Coastal Plains Raceway, and Southern National Speedway (Kenly);
7 and

8 WHEREAS, he has accumulated top ten finishes in 80 percent of his races and won at the
9 Coastal Plains Speedway in Jacksonville, North Carolina, upon his first visit to this
10 challenging track; and

11 WHEREAS, during the 2004 and 2005 seasons, Morty competed in Access Marketing's
12 Drive for Diversity program endorsed by NASCAR, and in March 2005, Atlanta Mayor
13 Shirley Franklin honored him with the Phoenix Award for Excellence in Motorsports; and

14 WHEREAS, in May 2005, Morty joined Victory Motor sports and plans to compete in
15 ARCA during the 2006 season; and

16 WHEREAS, Morty has served as an instructor for the Richard Petty Driving Experience and
17 has completed more than 3,000 miles at several of NASCAR's super speedways; and

18 WHEREAS, he continues to compete successfully due to the wonderful support of his
19 family – his engineer wife, Maria, who has previously served as his key chassis setup
20 manager and their three children, daughter Jada and twin sons Jordan and Justin; and

21 WHEREAS, Morty serves the community through the Morty Buckles Foundation, which
22 enriches the lives of young people by providing them with access to nontraditional
23 educational experiences.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
25 recognize and commend Morty Buckles.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
27 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Morty Buckles.