

Senate Resolution 399

By: Senator Tarver of the 22nd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of entertainer James Brown; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia lost one of its most distinguished treasures with the passing
3 of James Brown on Christmas Day, 2006; and
- 4 WHEREAS, James Joseph Brown, Jr., also known as "The Godfather of Soul," was an
5 inspirational entertainer, philanthropist, and citizen of the United States; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he was born May 3, 1933, in Barnwell, South Carolina, yet he would call
7 Augusta, Georgia, his beloved home from the age of five; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he went on to create an original, dynamic, gospel inspired sound that would
9 become the animating backbone of countless musical genres; and
- 10 WHEREAS, his songs expressed the heart and soul of a generation, scoring 17 Number One
11 R&B hits, including such memorable songs as "Try Me," "It's a Man's Man's Man's World,"
12 "Papa's Got a Brand New Bag," and "I Got You (I Feel Good)"; and
- 13 WHEREAS, James Brown gave generously to the people of Georgia, donating more than
14 3,000 turkeys and 20,000 Christmas toys and attending his annual Christmas toy giveaway
15 in Atlanta just days before he passed away; and
- 16 WHEREAS, he provided over 800 Thanksgiving turkeys to the people of Augusta, giving
17 his own time and money and facilitating the cooperation of local merchants and prominent
18 Georgia figures; and
- 19 WHEREAS, he volunteered to play Santa Claus for hundreds of Augusta children, donning
20 a leather suit and cowboy boots; and

1 WHEREAS, he used his voice on several occasions to encourage the youth of this country,
2 taking a stand against the violence of events like the Columbine shootings, and he is reputed
3 to have helped calm riots in the wake of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

4 WHEREAS, his good works were not limited to his music – throughout his astounding
5 lifetime, he touched the hearts and souls of millions throughout Georgia, the United States,
6 and the entire world.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
8 honor and remember the amazing life of James Brown, recognize his outstanding
9 contributions to the world of music and the State of Georgia, and extend their most sincere
10 condolences to his family.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
12 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of James Brown.