

## Senate Resolution 527

By: Senator Thomas of the 2nd

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the Reverend Edward L. Ellis, Jr., on the occasion of his 22nd pastoral anniversary;  
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend Edward L. Ellis, Jr., has served as the esteemed pastor of the historic  
4 First Bryan Baptist Church in Savannah, Georgia, for the past 22 years; and

5 WHEREAS, Reverend Ellis has been an extraordinary spiritual leader and a steadfast source  
6 of guidance throughout his distinguished career with this great church; and

7 WHEREAS, he has served his community and the State of Georgia well; and

8 WHEREAS, he is the eldest of four children born to the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lamar  
9 Ellis, Sr.; and

10 WHEREAS, he is an honor graduate of Fort Valley State College and a graduate of the  
11 University of Georgia, where he received his master's and education specialist degrees; and

12 WHEREAS, he also studied at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta and  
13 at Atlanta University; and

14 WHEREAS, he preached his trial sermon at his home church, First African Baptist Church  
15 in Monroe, Georgia, on the third Sunday in December of 1955 and was ordained on the  
16 second Thursday in October of 1958, also at First African Baptist Church while the Reverend  
17 W.C. Smith was serving as pastor; and

18 WHEREAS, he served as pastor of First African Baptist Church from 1965 to 1968 and as  
19 pastor of Thankful Baptist Church from 1970 to 1984 before taking the position as pastor of  
20 Historic First Bryan Baptist Church in Savannah; and

1 WHEREAS, in addition to his ministerial involvement, he has proudly served in the United  
2 States Army and has worked as a teacher, school social worker, administrator, director,  
3 community probation and parole officer, superintendent of a probation diversion center, and  
4 a chief probation officer; and

5 WHEREAS, Reverend Ellis' many achievements will stand as symbols of dignity, pride, and  
6 honor for his congregation and the citizens of this state for generations to come.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
8 honor the Reverend Edward L. Ellis, Jr., on the occasion of his 22nd pastoral anniversary at  
9 First Bryan Baptist Church and express to him their immense gratitude and respect.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
11 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Edward L. Ellis, Jr.