

Senate Resolution 1040

By: Senators Chance of the 16th, Rogers of the 21st, Staton of the 18th, Harp of the 29th,
Wiles of the 37th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and honoring the life of Noah N. Langdale; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Noah N. Langdale was tenacious in taking Georgia State University from a
3 two-building college to a major university as its president from 1957 through June, 1988; and
- 4 WHEREAS, during his tenure he set a pattern for Georgia State University that continues
5 today; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Mr. Langdale was single-minded in making Georgia State University more than
7 a college of 5,200 students, a budget of \$1.9 million, two buildings, and one degree in
8 business; and
- 9 WHEREAS, when he retired, the university had more than 22,000 students, 20 buildings, and
10 a budget of \$118.6 million and it offered 50 degrees in more than 200 fields; and
- 11 WHEREAS, a one-time University of Alabama football star and Phi Beta Kappa graduate,
12 the Valdosta native earned his law degree and master's in business administration from
13 Harvard University; and
- 14 WHEREAS, he left his law practice in Valdosta, Georgia, where he also taught at Valdosta
15 State University, to become Georgia State's president; and
- 16 WHEREAS, he was an erudite man who could quote great thinkers from Spinoza to Walter
17 Lippmann or discuss such concepts as the equity of the universality as glibly as he could
18 quote dialogue from Marx Brothers movies; and
- 19 WHEREAS, he was pleased with Georgia State University's long-standing tradition of open
20 debate and academic freedom, an integrated student body, a collaborative administration, and
21 a quality faculty and staff; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Langdale brought the student body to 22 percent minority and 57 percent
2 women, a mix no other college in the state could match; and

3 WHEREAS, under his tenure, Georgia State University held bragging rights to a thriving law
4 school, a nationally ranked business school, and to being a leader in public urban affairs; and

5 WHEREAS, for Mr. Langdale it always came down to people, "The most important thing
6 is that, over the years, we've been able to educate a great number of people who otherwise
7 would never have been able to go to college."; and

8 WHEREAS, he is survived by a son, Mike Langdale, of Atlanta; and

9 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the often unheralded yet dramatic
10 influence which professors and administrators such as Noah Langdale have on the quality
11 of education received by the undergraduate and graduate students of this state be
12 acknowledged appropriately.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
14 heartily recognize Noah Langdale for his many years of unparalleled and unexcelled
15 commitment and singular contribution to the advancement of education and offer their most
16 sincere condolences to his family and friends.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
18 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Noah Langdale.