

Senate Resolution 1080

By: Senators Johnson of the 1st and Thomas of the 2nd

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, Chairman John P. Forbes,  
2 and the 2008 St. Patrick's Day Parade's Grand Marshal Dr. Francis Patrick Rossiter, Jr.; and  
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the 2008 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Savannah will mark the 184th occasion on  
5 which this festive event has been held in this historic city with proud Irish roots; and

6 WHEREAS, this celebration was begun by the Hibernian Society of Savannah, which was  
7 formed to aid the early Irish immigrants to Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, many Irish organizations have contributed to the longevity and success of this  
9 celebration, and the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, which was formed in 1926, has  
10 carried on the tradition for the past 82 years; and

11 WHEREAS, according to one of Ireland's former prime ministers, "Ireland is where strange  
12 tales begin and happy endings are possible," and the same holds true for the beautiful City  
13 of Savannah; and

14 WHEREAS, this historic annual parade is the 2nd largest Irish celebration in the nation,  
15 attracting more than 300,000 visitors each year, and it is held in the lovely historic district  
16 and is always a joyous and meaningful occasion for the citizens of Savannah, Chatham  
17 County, and the State of Georgia; and

18 WHEREAS, the 2008 St. Patrick's Day Parade's Grand Marshal Dr. Francis Patrick Rossiter,  
19 Jr., has served his country, his community, and the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee for  
20 many years; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Rossiter, Jr., is continuing the Irish tradition that began when his  
2 great-grandfather came to Savannah from Ireland in 1850, and the Rossiter family has  
3 proudly called Savannah home ever since; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Rossiter, Jr., is following in the footsteps of his father, Frank Rossiter, Sr.,  
5 who was the Grand Marshal in 1972.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that this body recognizes and  
7 honors the members of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, Chairman John P. Forbes,  
8 and the 2008 St. Patrick's Day Parade's Grand Marshal Dr. Francis Patrick Rossiter, Jr., for  
9 their tireless efforts in organizing and their great work on behalf of the 2008 St. Patrick's Day  
10 Parade and their many important contributions to their community and state.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
12 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee  
13 Chairman John P. Forbes and to the Grand Marshal of Savannah's 2008 St. Patrick's Day  
14 Parade Dr. Francis Patrick Rossiter, Jr.