

Senate Resolution 1196

By: Senator Thomas of the 2nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Master Sergeant Ray Bess; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Master Sergeant Ray Bess was born on March 6, 1961, in Newark, New Jersey,
3 to Dudley and Ora Bess as the second child of three; and

4 WHEREAS, he graduated from West Side High School in Newark, New Jersey, in 1979, and
5 he went on to attend Somerset Junior College while working part time with Elizabeth
6 Medical Center in their radiology program to pay for his education; and

7 WHEREAS, he joined the United States Army in 1983 and was assigned to Fort Stewart,
8 Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, he met his wife, Pamela, in 1985 while at Fort Stewart, and they have been
10 married for 22 years and have one son, Ray N. Bess, Jr.; and

11 WHEREAS, after his first tour of duty, he reenlisted and finished a second tour of duty in
12 1992 and later joined the Air National Guard, where he ended his military career in 1999 as
13 a proud Master Sergeant; and

14 WHEREAS, with a combined service term of 24 years, Master Sergeant Bess has earned
15 many distinguished medals and citations including the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Air
16 Force Outstanding Unit Award with four devices, Army Good Conduct Medal, Air Reserve
17 Forces Meritorious Service Medal with three devices, National Defense Service Medal,
18 Southwest Asia Service Medal with one device, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal,
19 Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Overseas Service Ribbon, Air Force Longevity Service
20 with three devices, and Georgia National Guard Service Medal; and

1 WHEREAS, Master Sergeant Ray Bess has served his country with honor and distinction,
2 and it is only proper and fitting that we recognize his distinguished service to this state and
3 to our nation.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
5 join together to commend Master Sergeant Ray Bess for his extraordinary service to this state
6 and to our nation.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is hereby authorized and
8 directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Master Sergeant Ray Bess.