

Senate Resolution 1235

By: Senator Jackson of the 2nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Reverend Edward Lamar Ellis, Jr., on the occasion of his 25th
2 pastoral anniversary with First Bryan Baptist Church and retirement; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend Edward Lamar Ellis, Jr., has devoted 52 years to preaching the Word
4 of God and leading his community; and

5 WHEREAS, Reverend Ellis has demonstrated his commitment to teaching the Gospel,
6 witnessing Christ through word and deed, and addressing the physical, psychological,
7 intellectual, and spiritual needs of others; and

8 WHEREAS, a native of Monroe, Georgia, Reverend Ellis is the eldest of four children born
9 to the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lamar Ellis, Sr.; and

10 WHEREAS, Reverend Ellis earned a bachelor's degree from Fort Valley State University and
11 a master's degree and specialist degree in education from the University of Georgia and has
12 studied at the Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta University, and Virginia
13 Union University School of Theology; and

14 WHEREAS, he served as pastor at First African Baptist Church in Monroe from 1965 to
15 1968, led the congregation of Thankful Baptist Church in Athens from 1970 to 1984, and
16 joined First Bryan Baptist Church in 1985, celebrating his 25th anniversary this year; and

17 WHEREAS, during his time leading First Bryan Baptist Church, the church has grown into
18 a phenomenal place of worship, uplifting the community like the light of Bethlehem and
19 serving as a spiritual leader and place for fellowship; and

20 WHEREAS, a natural leader, Reverend Ellis served as a guardian of this nation's freedom
21 and liberty in the United States Army, has directed 18 ministers on their pastoral path, and

22 has led his community as a board member of the May Street YMCA and the Housing
23 Authority of Savannah; and

24 WHEREAS, as a minister of the Gospel, Reverend Ellis has shown the energy, devotion, and
25 commitment truly reflective of divine guidance which has allowed the Word of God to
26 spread throughout the community; and

27 WHEREAS, Reverend Ellis is united in love and marriage to First Lady Lillian Sharon
28 Williams Ellis and they have been blessed with three remarkable children and six
29 grandchildren; and

30 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this enduring example of God's message
31 of peace and love be recognized and congratulated for his innumerable good works rendered
32 on behalf of persons in need.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 commend Reverend Edward Lamar Ellis, Jr., for his 52 years of service to the Lord and his
35 community, congratulate him upon the wonderful occasion of his 25th pastoral anniversary
36 with First Bryan Baptist Church, and extend best wishes on his retirement.

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