

House Resolution 2169

By: Representative Smith of the 168<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending Mrs. Olivia Bennett on the occasion of her retirement; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Mrs. Olivia Bennett has long been recognized as an inspiration to others and  
3 for the vital role that she has played in the success of the banking industry in Georgia; and
- 4 WHEREAS, she has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of her time,  
5 talents, and energy to the Alma Exchange Bank and Trust since 1974 where she has served  
6 with honor and distinction; and
- 7 WHEREAS, an incredible example of work ethic and dedication, Mrs. Bennett retired as  
8 chairman from the Alma Exchange Bank and Trust at the age of 90, where she conducted  
9 board meetings as well as credit meetings at the company's four affiliate banks and served  
10 as an advisor to loan officers; and
- 11 WHEREAS, she served as valedictorian of her senior class at Peabody High School and  
12 earned an associate's degree from Georgia State College for Women before beginning her  
13 career with the Alma Exchange Bank and Trust, which was founded by her late husband  
14 Valene Bennett; and
- 15 WHEREAS, her significant organizational and leadership talents, her remarkable patience  
16 and diplomacy, her keen sense of vision, and her sensitivity to the needs of the citizens of  
17 this state have earned her the respect and admiration of her colleagues and associates; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Mrs. Bennett leaves the family business in the hands of her remarkable sons,  
19 Paul and Lawrence, who serve as vice chairman and chairman; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Mrs. Bennett is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable  
21 reputation for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; and

22 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
23 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
25 the members of this body commend Mrs. Olivia Bennett for decades of efficient, effective,  
26 unselfish, and dedicated service to the people of Bacon County; congratulate her upon the  
27 grand occasion of her retirement; and extend to her their most sincere best wishes for  
28 continued health and happiness.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
30 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mrs. Olivia Bennett.