

House Resolution 502

By: Representatives Mangham of the 94th, Neal of the 1st, Williams of the 165th, Walker of the 107th, Setzler of the 35th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the contributions of members of the clergy in Georgia and recognizing
2 March 3, 2009, as the eighth annual Clergy Day at the Georgia State Capitol; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Georgia is most fortunate to have a very diverse community of religious faiths
5 represented in its local communities throughout this great state; and

6 WHEREAS, the spiritual leaders of these various faiths provide tremendous comfort, hope,
7 support, and joy to individuals and families as they proceed through life, helping them to find
8 God's direction for the road ahead; and

9 WHEREAS, through their teachings the clergy have inspired spiritual understanding and
10 peace to persons from all walks of life and for generations reached out to nurture persons in
11 need of refuge and support along life's journey; and

12 WHEREAS, great religious leaders have ministered to Georgia's communities, actively
13 promoting improved community relations among its people and personally demonstrating
14 their steadfast commitment to social justice for all Georgians; and

15 WHEREAS, for each house of worship, its leader guides his flock, like the shepherd his
16 sheep, through prayer as his own supplication to God for guidance and through the faithful
17 prayers of those under his leadership; and

18 WHEREAS, we owe a depth of gratitude to those who faithfully serve God and His people
19 as dedicated and honorable ministers to their communities, often neglecting their own
20 personal needs to give us guidance and comfort, in good times and in trials; and

21 WHEREAS, in his letter to the church at Thessalonica, Paul instructed the people "to know
22 them who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, to esteem them very highly in love

23 for their work's sake," such wise words having application to all faiths as it is incumbent
24 upon all of us to acknowledge the great deeds and sacrifices of our ministers and to express
25 our deepest appreciation for their service.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
27 the members of this body commend Georgia's clergy for their community leadership and
28 recognize March 3, 2009, as the eighth annual Clergy Day at the Georgia State Capitol to
29 welcome these devout leaders.