

Senate Resolution 858

By: Senators Jackson of the 2nd and James of the 35th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dr. Elridge W. McMillan; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Elridge W. McMillan has long been recognized by the citizens of this state
3 for his selfless service to education, his commitment to Georgia's institutions of higher
4 education, and his stalwart support of Georgia's Historically Black Colleges and Universities;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. McMillan has dedicated 34 years to the Board of Regents of the University
7 System of Georgia, which places him in the record books as the longest serving member in
8 the organization's 78 year history; and

9 WHEREAS, he stands as the first African American to serve as chairperson of the Board of
10 Regents; and

11 WHEREAS, during his over three decades with the Board of Regents, Dr. McMillan played
12 a critical role in the implementation of the federally ordered desegregation plan for the
13 University System's colleges and universities and worked tirelessly to enhance academics
14 and elevate the reputation of Georgia's University System; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2004, Dr. McMillan was honored with the board's Lifetime Achievement
16 Award, an annual recognition which has been named in his honor; and

17 WHEREAS, he was the first African American president of the Southern Education
18 Foundation, where he led the foundation to take a prominent role in the promotion of equity
19 and equality in the South, and currently serves as President Emeritus; and

20 WHEREAS, a recognized expert in the fields of higher education policy, research,
21 governance, and curriculum development, Dr. McMillan serves as the Scholar-in-Residence
22 at Atlanta Metropolitan College; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. McMillan was first to serve as Chief of the Education Branch of the Office
24 for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; and

25 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the extraordinary accomplishment of this
26 distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
28 commend Dr. Elridge W. McMillan for his outstanding contributions to the field of higher
29 education and recognize his selfless, efficient, and effective public service to the State of
30 Georgia.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
32 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Dr. Elridge W. McMillan.