

Senate Resolution 989

By: Senator Carter of the 1st

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. Benjamin E. Gay; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
- 3 with the passing of Mr. Benjamin E. Gay on January 28, 2010; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mr. Gay was born in Wilson, North Carolina, a beloved son of the late Aline
- 5 Baltzegar Gay and John Franklin Gay, Jr.; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
- 7 States Army, valiantly and courageously defending democracy during World War II as a
- 8 Forward Observer with the 761st Field Artillery Battalion in the European Theater and with
- 9 the Office of Strategic Services, which is now the CIA; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Mr. Gay was recognized with two Battle Stars for his sacrifice and service to
- 11 this nation; and
- 12 WHEREAS, a graduate of North Carolina State University, Mr. Gay moved to Savannah in
- 13 1951 to take a position in the engineering department of Union Camp Corporation and later
- 14 worked with a local engineering firm before opening his own firm, Hussey, Gay, Bell &
- 15 DeYoung; and
- 16 WHEREAS, a natural leader, Mr. Gay served two terms as the president of the Better
- 17 Business Bureau of the Coastal Empire, was elected chairman emeritus of the BBB Southeast
- 18 Atlantic, Inc., and was an officer of numerous organizations, including the NC State Alumni
- 19 Association, Savannah Jaycees, the business chapter of the John Birch Society, and
- 20 Connecting Business Men to Christ, just to name a few; and
- 21 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his adoring wife, Mildred, and was
- 22 blessed with the love of three daughters, Carole, Charlotte, and Dodie; and

23 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Mr. Gay was an active member of Bull Street  
24 Baptist Church, where he served as a deacon; and

25 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
26 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness and, by the example he made of his life, he  
27 made this world a better place in which to live; and

28 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. Gay will long be remembered for his  
29 love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father, neighbor, and friend will be  
30 missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
32 join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. Benjamin E. Gay and express their deepest and  
33 most sincere regret at his passing.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
35 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. Benjamin E. Gay.