

Senate Resolution 254

By: Senator Hill of the 4th

### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. William I. Griffis on the occasion of his retirement; and  
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. William I. Griffis has long been recognized by the citizens of this state for  
4 the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the  
5 welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, he has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time,  
7 talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state as evidenced  
8 dramatically by his superlative service with the Georgia Southern University Foundation; and

9 WHEREAS, a graduate of Georgia Southern University, Mr. Griffis began his career as a  
10 manager with Fuller & DeLoach Certified Public Accountants in 1969; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Griffis served as president and CEO of the T.J. Morris Company and as an  
12 investor and financial consultant before returning to his alma mater in 2001 as director of  
13 development and president of the Georgia Southern University Foundation; and

14 WHEREAS, since 2004, Mr. Griffis has served as Georgia Southern's vice president for  
15 University Advancement and president of the Georgia Southern University Foundation; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Griffis has been recognized with numerous honors and accolades, including  
17 the Georgia Southern University COBA Alumnus of the Year, Outstanding Member in the  
18 Industry award from the Georgia Society of CPAs, Lay Leader of the Year from Georgia  
19 Recreation and Parks Society, and was named a Paul Harris Fellow for Rotary International;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, his significant organizational and leadership talents, his remarkable patience  
22 and diplomacy, his keen sense of vision, and his sensitivity to the needs of the citizens of this  
23 state have earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and associates; and

24 WHEREAS, he is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for  
25 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Griffis has served with honor and distinction with Georgia Southern  
27 University and his vision and unyielding commitment will be sorely missed upon the  
28 occasion of his retirement; and

29 WHEREAS, he is wished a happy retirement, where he is sure to enjoy spending more time  
30 with his supportive wife of 42 years, Eileen, and his children and grandchildren.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
32 commend Mr. William I. Griffis for his efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated public  
33 service to Georgia Southern University; congratulate him upon the grand occasion of his  
34 retirement; and extend to him their most sincere best wishes for continued health and  
35 happiness.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
37 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. William I. Griffis.