

## Senate Resolution 401

By: Senators Ginn of the 47th, Bulloch of the 11th, Heath of the 31st, Jackson of the 2nd, Orrock of the 36th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Honorable Gary W. Black upon his election as Agriculture  
2 Commissioner for the State of Georgia; and for other purposes.

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

6 WHEREAS, Commissioner Black began his service as an advocate for agriculture at the age  
7 of 17 when he served as Georgia FFA State President; and

8 WHEREAS, he was awarded an American Farmer Degree in 1978 and an agricultural  
9 education degree from the University of Georgia in 1980, where he was a campus leader as  
10 vice president of the Ag Hill Council and was inducted into the AGHON honor society; and

11 WHEREAS, Commissioner Black began his career with the Georgia Farm Bureau in 1980  
12 as a field representative and later served as coordinator for the State Young Farmer Program;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, he served as the president of the Georgia Agribusiness Council for 21 years,  
15 expanding services to members to include workers' compensation insurance, homeland  
16 security compliance training, and advocacy for issues important to the agriculture industry;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Commissioner Black helped lead the development and management of the  
19 Showcase of Southern Agriculture during the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta,  
20 which allowed over 600,000 world-wide visitors to experience a microcosm of Georgia  
21 agriculture at Centennial Park; and

22 WHEREAS, he co-managed the Georgia Food Industry Partnerships for 13 years, a  
23 public-private consortium that directs research funding for food safety and product  
24 improvement at Georgia's research universities; and

25 WHEREAS, Commissioner Black is united in love and marriage to his supportive wife,  
26 Lydia, and has been blessed with two remarkable children, Ward and Caroline; and

27 WHEREAS, Commissioner Black's vision and unyielding commitment have set the standard  
28 for public service, and the members of this body are proud to have him holding such an  
29 esteemed position in this state; and

30 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the extraordinary accomplishments of  
31 this distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
33 commend the Honorable Gary W. Black for his efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated  
34 public service to the State of Georgia and congratulate him upon his election as Georgia  
35 Agriculture Commissioner.

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 the Honorable Gary W. Black.