

Senate Resolution 456

By: Senator Brown of the 26th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Coach Alvin J. Copeland; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Coach Alvin J. Copeland has long been recognized for his superior coaching  
3 skills, his dedication to challenging the future leaders of Georgia, and his incredible devotion  
4 to his players; and

5 WHEREAS, Coach Copeland was born in Valdosta, Georgia, and earned a bachelor's degree  
6 from Fort Valley State University and a master's degree from New York University and  
7 attended post-graduate studies at the University of Georgia, Fort Valley State University,  
8 Mercer University, and Georgia Southern University; and

9 WHEREAS, he began his career in education in 1964 at Hubbard High School in Forsyth,  
10 serving as a health and physical education teacher, assistant coach for the football and  
11 basketball teams, and head coach for track and field; and

12 WHEREAS, Coach Copeland took over as head coach of the Northeast Magnet High School  
13 girls basketball team in 1973 after serving as a coach at Appling Junior High School in  
14 Macon; and

15 WHEREAS, he made his ninth and final appearance into the girls basketball State Final Four  
16 this year, leading the school to five state titles in 1975, 1981, 1982, 1985, and 2002, in  
17 addition to his seven state championship titles in girls track and field; and

18 WHEREAS, Coach Copeland has won an amazing 862 career games, ranking him the eighth  
19 in the nation among coaches currently coaching and 13th among coaches of all-time; and

20 WHEREAS, he has prepared scores of athletes for collegiate level play, with some of his first  
21 players sending their children and grandchildren to Coach Copeland to learn the  
22 fundamentals and hone their skills; and

23 WHEREAS, he brings out the superior athletic ability of his players and has served as a role  
24 model and mentor to his teams, and Coach Copeland's many contributions to the students of  
25 this state are worthy of recognition.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
27 recognize Coach Alvin J. Copeland for his decades of leadership to student-athletes and  
28 commend his commitment to the student-athletes of Georgia.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
30 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Coach Alvin J. Copeland.