

Senate Resolution 523

By: Senators Staton of the 18th, Butterworth of the 50th, Chance of the 16th, Grant of the 25th, Cowsert of the 46th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. Erroll B. Davis, Jr.; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Erroll B. Davis, Jr., has long been recognized by the citizens of this state
3 for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the
4 students of Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his
6 time, talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state as evidenced
7 dramatically by his superlative service as chancellor of the University System of Georgia;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, as chancellor, Mr. Davis is responsible for 35 public colleges and universities,
10 over 300,000 students, over 40,000 faculty and staff, 58 public library systems, and an annual
11 budget of approximately \$6.3 billion; and

12 WHEREAS, a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Mr. Davis earned a bachelor's degree in
13 electrical engineering from Carnegie Mellon University and a master's degree in finance from
14 the University of Chicago; and

15 WHEREAS, prior to serving as chancellor, Mr. Davis served as a member of the University
16 of Wisconsin System Board of Regents, as chairman of the Carnegie Mellon University
17 board of trustees, as CEO of WPL Holdings, as CEO and president of Wisconsin Power and
18 Light, and as chairman of the board of Alliant Energy Corporation; and

19 WHEREAS, since he took office as chancellor in 2006, the University System's enrollment
20 has increased, establishing a new enrollment record each year, and numerous system-wide
21 challenges have been tackled, including improving student advisement, increasing retention
22 and graduation, creating benchmarks for philanthropy, improving training and development,
23 and increasing energy efficiency on campuses; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis is responsible for the adoption of a system-wide ethics policy and
25 an overhaul of the system's core curriculum, including the launch of online education
26 initiatives; and

27 WHEREAS, he is united in love and marriage to his wife, Elaine, who assisted him in the
28 establishment of the Davis Family Foundation, which makes annual grants to numerous
29 students in need; and

30 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis has been recognized with numerous honors and accolades throughout
31 his distinguished career, including recognition as one of the 100 Most Influential Georgians
32 by *Georgia Trend* magazine, 100 Most Influential Atlantans by the *Atlanta Business*
33 *Chronicle*, 75 Most Powerful Blacks in Corporate America by *Black Enterprise* magazine,
34 and 50 Most Powerful Black Executives in America by *Fortune* magazine; and

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

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
38 commend Mr. Erroll B. Davis, Jr., for his efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated public
39 service to the State of Georgia, and extend to him their most sincere best wishes for
40 continued health and happiness.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
42 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Erroll B. Davis, Jr.