

## Senate Resolution 968

By: Senators James of the 35th, Seay of the 34th, Butler of the 55th, Davenport of the 44th, Fort of the 39th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the contributions of members of the clergy in Georgia and recognizing  
2 March 5, 2012, as the 11th annual Clergy Day at the capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Faith and Clergy Commission was formed on March 1, 2010, with the stated  
4 purpose to express appreciation and gratitude to members of the clergy and faith  
5 communities and conduct an annual gathering at the capitol during the legislative session;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Georgia is most fortunate to have a very diverse community of religious faiths  
8 represented in its local communities throughout this great state; and

9 WHEREAS, the spiritual leaders of these various faiths provide tremendous comfort, hope,  
10 support, and joy to individuals and families as they proceed through life, helping them to find  
11 God's direction for the road ahead; and

12 WHEREAS, through their teachings the clergy have inspired spiritual understanding and  
13 peace to persons from all walks of life and for generations reached out to nurture persons in  
14 need of refuge and support along life's journey; and

15 WHEREAS, great religious leaders have ministered to Georgia's communities, actively  
16 promoting improved community relations among its people and personally demonstrating  
17 their steadfast commitment to social justice for all Georgians; and

18 WHEREAS, for each house of worship, its leader guides his flock, like the shepherd his  
19 sheep, through prayer as his own supplication to God for guidance and through the faithful  
20 prayers of those under his leadership; and

21 WHEREAS, we owe a depth of gratitude to those who faithfully serve God and His people  
22 as dedicated and honorable ministers to their communities, often neglecting their own  
23 personal needs to give us guidance and comfort, in good times and in trials; and

24 WHEREAS, in his letter to the church at Thessalonica, Paul instructed the people "to know  
25 them who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, to esteem them very highly in love  
26 for their work's sake," such wise words having application to all faiths as it is incumbent  
27 upon all of us to acknowledge the great deeds and sacrifices of our ministers and to express  
28 our deepest appreciation for their service.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
30 commend Georgia's clergy for their community leadership and recognize March 5, 2012, as  
31 the 11th annual Clergy Day at the capitol.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
33 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the public and the press.