

Senate Resolution 69EX

By: Senators Fort of the 39th, Tate of the 38th, Davenport of the 44th and Orrock of the 36th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dr. Mitzi L. Bickers on her 45th birthday and her 13th year
2 of pastoring at Emmanuel Baptist Church; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Mitzi L. Bickers is a native of Atlanta, Georgia, the daughter of the late Dr.
4 Benjamin Weldon Bickers and Mrs. Ethel King Bickers; and

5 WHEREAS, having been nurtured by her parents and grandmother, she graduated from the
6 Atlanta Public School System, where she was encouraged to study hard and further her
7 studies in an institution of higher learning; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Bickers received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and
9 Education from Spelman College, and then taught in the Atlanta Public School System for
10 two years; and

11 WHEREAS, while studying at Spelman College, she continued to work with high school
12 children, helping to enhance their musical abilities by conducting band and drum major
13 workshops at high schools and middle schools in the Metropolitan Atlanta area; and

14 WHEREAS, she later worked for The Metropolitan Atlanta Crime Commission Victim
15 Witness Assistance Program, where she provided crisis intervention to victims of crime,
16 serving as a liaison between the local law enforcement agencies and the community; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1998, she received a Doctor of Divinity Degree from Avotra Bible College
18 and Seminary in Scottsboro, Alabama; and

19 WHEREAS, at the age of 15, Reverend Bickers served as Minister of Music at Emmanuel
20 Baptist Church where her father was pastor, where she was responsible for training and
21 conducting the choirs and playing the organ each Sunday morning; and

22 WHEREAS, in 1991 Reverend Bickers was ordained to the Christian Ministry and served
23 as Co-Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, where she also served as the Director of Christian
24 Education for six years; and

25 WHEREAS, Dr. Bickers was called to pastor Emmanuel Baptist Church in July 1998 after
26 the passing of her father who pastored the church for more than 40 years; and

27 WHEREAS, she has been an inspiration to many through her teachings and preaching with
28 powerful, soul-stirring, and spirit-filled sermons that are long remembered; and

29 WHEREAS, at age 26, Dr. Bickers was the youngest person ever elected to the Atlanta
30 Board of Education, where she represented District Two for more than ten years; and

31 WHEREAS, in this role, she was one of nine members responsible for governance and
32 financial accountability of the Atlanta Public School System, serving two terms as President,
33 and also serving as vice-president and chair of facilities during her tenure; and

34 WHEREAS, Dr. Bickers worked for Thacker Operating Company, where she was
35 responsible for marketing and business development for the Southeast Region, and later
36 worked at E. R. Mitchell Company as Vice President of Operations, where she managed the
37 daily operations and business development; and

38 WHEREAS, she is currently President and CEO of The Bickers Group, a marketing and
39 public relations company with offices in the United States and Mexico, and is serving the
40 citizens of Atlanta under the direction of Mayor Kasim Reed; and

41 WHEREAS, Dr. Bickers is affiliated with many social, political, and professional
42 organizations, including: Project GRAD Atlanta, Board of Directors; Centennial Place
43 YMCA, Board of Directors; The National Alliance of Black School Educators; Concerned
44 Black Clergy; National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; and The
45 Southern Christian Leadership Conference; and

46 WHEREAS, Dr. Bickers is the proud mother of one son, Emmanuel Weldon Bickers.

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
48 join the congregation of Emmanuel Baptist Church in recognizing and commending Dr.

49 Mitzi L. Bickers on the occasion of her 45th birthday and the 13th anniversary of her
50 leadership and spiritual guidance as the Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
52 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Dr. Mitzi L. Bickers.