

Senate Resolution 1023

By: Senators Miller of the 49th, Unterman of the 45th, Balfour of the 9th, Gooch of the 51st and Murphy of the 27th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing Virgil R. Williams; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Virgil R. Williams graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1963
3 and as a senior, developed a 40 home subdivision, a gas station, and 12 unit apartment
4 project in his native Atlanta; and
- 5 WHEREAS, upon graduation, he became president of Williams Contracting, a company that
6 has made its mark in industrial contracting, environmental services, civil and industrial
7 engineering, construction services, and real estate; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams conceived the "Williams Plan," which showed companies how
9 to save millions of dollars in maintenance costs and reinvented service in the heavy and
10 complicated manufacturing and utility industries; and
- 11 WHEREAS, in the early 1980s, he purchased a small group of banks in the Atlanta area and
12 convinced Kroger supermarkets to allow him to open branches in their Georgia stores; and
- 13 WHEREAS, this innovation changed the face of modern banking, with Mr. Williams
14 utilizing this idea nation wide in the form of International Banking Technologies; his
15 financial institutions eventually became part of Bank of America, one of the largest banks
16 in the United States; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams was a member of the Bank of America Board of Directors, where
18 he served on the Executive Committee and the Compensation Committee and chaired the
19 Governance Committee until his retirement; and
- 20 WHEREAS, he served as Governor Zell Miller's chief of staff from 1991 to 1995, where he
21 chaired a monumental study on effectiveness and economy in government; during his tenure

22 in state government, Mr. Williams also served on the Georgia Board of Regents and assisted
23 in other activities for Governor Miller; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams has served on the Board of Trustees at Young Harris College, the
25 Board of Councilors of the Carter Center, and serves on the Board of the Savannah College
26 of Art and Design; he is also a past director of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and past
27 executive committee member of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce; and he continues
28 to serve as a director of the Gwinnett County Chamber of Commerce; and

29 WHEREAS, in 1994, he was recognized as a Distinguished Alumni by both the Georgia
30 Institute of Technology School of Engineering and the School of Industrial Systems
31 Engineering, and in 2005, became the managing member of LLI Management Company,
32 LLC, a resort enterprise of the Virgil R. Williams Family, which owns the long-term
33 leasehold interests in Lake Lanier Islands Resort; and

34 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams is united in love and marriage to Sara Davis Williams and is
35 blessed with three sons, Virgil R. Williams, Jr., Michael D. Williams, and Bradley M.
36 Williams, a daughter, Mendy J. Williams Bowling, and nine grandchildren; the Williams
37 Family currently resides in Suwanee, Georgia.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
39 recognize Virgil R. Williams for his countless accomplishments in both the private and
40 public sectors in the State of Georgia and express their most sincere best wishes for
41 continued success and happiness.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
43 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Virgil R. Williams.