

Senate Resolution 81

By: Senators Jackson of the 2nd and Sims of the 12th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Benjamin Johnson and congratulating him upon the grand occasion of his
2 retirement; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Benjamin Johnson, born August 20, 1934, has lived in and served the
4 community of Savannah, Georgia, for his entire life; and

5 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
6 States Army, valiantly and courageously defending his fellow citizens during the Korean
7 War, during which time he survived a bombing and received a distinguished Medal of Valor
8 for saving a downed pilot in Korean waters; and

9 WHEREAS, he joined the workforce at the International Longshoremen's Association in
10 Savannah, Georgia, in 1956, where he worked to form the "Letter Category System" and was
11 the youngest of 300 men to receive a letter "A" card of seniority and the youngest man to
12 work as a supervisor; and

13 WHEREAS, he retired on June 1, 2014, as the last "A" card in the International
14 Longshoremen's Association of Local #1414 after accumulating more than 58 years of
15 dedicated service and approximately 156,000 working hours; and

16 WHEREAS, due to his hard work, perseverance, determination, and courage, Benjamin
17 Johnson and other courageous men and women like him have made the International
18 Longshoremen's Association Local #1414 of Savannah, Georgia, one of the fastest working
19 ports in the United States; and

20 WHEREAS, WTOC and WSAV television stations have nominated him "a hometown hero,"
21 the *Savannah Morning News* recognized him in a newspaper editorial, and Mayor Edna
22 Jackson presented him with a prestigious letter of gratitude for his outstanding service in the
23 military and as a distinguished Longshoreman; and

24 WHEREAS, he is united in love and marriage to Betty R. Johnson and is blessed with five
25 wonderful children and a host of incredible grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and

26 WHEREAS, Benjamin Johnson has spent his life valiantly and selflessly serving the City of
27 Savannah, the State of Georgia, and the United States, making it fitting and proper for him
28 to be honored.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
30 commend Benjamin Johnson for his life of service and congratulate him upon the grand
31 occasion of his retirement.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Benjamin Johnson.