

Senate Resolution 413

By: Senator Jackson of the 2nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Elder James E. Taylor; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, James E. Taylor was born on July 29, 1941, in Rincon, Georgia, a beloved son
3 of Robert and Edna Taylor; and

4 WHEREAS, he received his early education in Effingham County, graduating from
5 Springfield Central High School in 1960; he matriculated at Albany State College, later
6 receiving his Bachelor of Science degree from Savannah State College and his Master of
7 Education degree from Savannah State-Armstrong State College Joint Graduate Center; and

8 WHEREAS, Elder Taylor earned his Diploma in Theology from Turner Theological
9 Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia, and completed other studies at Georgia Southern College, the
10 University of Georgia, and Erskine Seminary in Due West, South Carolina; and

11 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
12 States Air Force, first as an Administrative Specialist in the Security and Law Enforcement
13 Division and later as a Legal Specialist in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate; he was
14 named Outstanding Airman of the 3500th Pilot Training Wing in November, 1965; and

15 WHEREAS, Elder Taylor is also a graduate of the University of Georgia College of
16 Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Cooperative Extension Services' Master Gardener
17 Program, and he is a Georgia Master Gardener; and

18 WHEREAS, he completed certification requirements for Christian Education in the Sixth
19 Episcopal District and has served as Christian Education Director for the Georgia Annual
20 Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church; and

21 WHEREAS, Elder Taylor retired from the field of education in 2002 after a career which
22 spanned more than 30 years and received numerous citations while serving as a teacher and

23 administrator in the public school system of Savannah-Chatham County; he held teaching
24 and administrative positions at Savannah State and also was a lecturer and administrator
25 while serving as a Peace Corps volunteer at Cuttington University College in Suacoco, Bong
26 County, Liberia, West Africa, from 1975 to 1977; and

27 WHEREAS, Elder Taylor has served as an able and caring pastor who now serves as the
28 Presiding Elder of the Savannah West District of the Georgia Annual Conference of the
29 African Methodist Episcopal Church; and

30 WHEREAS, Elder Taylor has served as president of several ministerial organizations in the
31 Savannah area and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Martin Luther King, Jr.,
32 Observance Day Association, Inc.; he was chairman of the Board of Directors of the Ralph
33 Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum, Associate Director of the Emancipation Association of
34 Savannah, Georgia, and Vicinity, Inc; and he was cited as a Civil Rights Activist by the
35 Martin Luther King, Jr., Observance Day Association, Inc., in 2006 for his work in school
36 desegregation efforts during the 1970s; and

37 WHEREAS, Elder Taylor is united in love and marriage to Shirley, and was blessed with one
38 beloved son, seven wonderful grandchildren, and seven amazing great-grandchildren; and

39 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
40 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
42 commend Elder James E. Taylor for his efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated public
43 service to the State of Georgia.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
45 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Elder James E.
46 Taylor.