

Senate Resolution 485

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 Reverend James H. Sims, Jr., on the occasion of his 40th
2 pastoral anniversary and retirement; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend James H. Sims, Jr., has demonstrated his commitment to teaching the
4 Gospel, witnessing Christ through word and deed, and addressing the physical,
5 psychological, intellectual, and spiritual needs of others; and

6 WHEREAS, Reverend Sims is a native of Oglethorpe County, Georgia; he attended
7 Oglethorpe County Elementary School, Union Institute, and Athens High and Industrial
8 School; he has matriculated at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, and Paine College
9 in Augusta, Georgia; and

10 WHEREAS, Reverend Sims was ordained in the ministry at the age of 18 and began his
11 pastorate at 19; he has led the congregations of the following churches: Rucker Memorial
12 Baptist Church, Central Baptist Church, Summerville Baptist Church, and Greater Young
13 Zion Baptist Church; and he has been pastor of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta,
14 Georgia, for 40 years; and

15 WHEREAS, his vision and direction have helped Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church grow
16 in size and influence; he has led his congregation into many challenging and rewarding areas
17 of Christian service and building programs; and

18 WHEREAS, over the past four decades leading Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Reverend
19 Sims has established numerous programs and workshops which have improved the spiritual
20 and educational growth of the church and the surrounding community; and

21 WHEREAS, whether the task is preparing a sermon, visiting the sick, counseling the
22 troubled, baptizing a new believer, or acting as a theologian, educator, administrator, or
23 humanitarian, Reverend Sims serves as a shining example of God's righteous path; and

24 WHEREAS, he has been affiliated with and an active member of and held office in many
25 religious and civic organizations, including the NAACP, Augusta Chapter; Ministers Union;
26 10th District of the General Missionary Baptist Convention; Walker Baptist Congress;
27 YMCA WSB-TV Radio Sermonette Program; and the New Era State Baptist Commission
28 of Georgia; and

29 WHEREAS, Reverend Sims has received numerous awards; in February, 1994, he was
30 inducted into the Board by Preachers at the Martin Luther King, Jr., Chapel at Morehouse
31 College; and

32 WHEREAS, Reverend Sims has served with honor and distinction as the pastor of Shiloh
33 Missionary Baptist Church, and his vision and unyielding commitment will be sorely missed
34 upon the grand occasion of his retirement; and

35 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this enduring example of God's message
36 of peace and love be recognized and congratulated for his innumerable good works rendered
37 on behalf of persons in need.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
39 congratulate Reverend James H. Sims, Jr., on the wonderful occasion of his 40th pastoral
40 anniversary and retirement and extend best wishes for many more years of successful
41 fellowship and leadership.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
43 to a make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Reverend James
44 H. Sims, Jr.