

Senate Resolution 858

By: Senators Jones of the 25th, Bethel of the 54th, Harper of the 7th, Wilkinson of the 50th, Ginn of the 47th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mr. Thomas Antonio Davis and recognizing May 8, 2016, as Thomas Davis
2 Day; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Thomas Antonio Davis, born March 22, 1983, is an American football
4 outside linebacker for the Carolina Panthers of the National Football League; and

5 WHEREAS, he played college football for the University of Georgia, was recognized as a
6 consensus All-American, and was a first round pick of the Carolina Panthers in the 2005
7 National Football League Draft; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis was the recipient of the 2014 Walter Payton Man of the Year Award,
9 an award given annually by the National Football League to honor a player's volunteer and
10 charity work, as well as his excellence on the field; and

11 WHEREAS, he has been chosen by his National Football League peers to receive one of the
12 sport's most prestigious honors, the Bart Starr Award, given annually to a player who
13 exemplifies character and leadership on and off the field; and

14 WHEREAS, through this honor, Mr. Davis will join the list of Bart Starr Award winners that
15 include Peyton Manning, Aaron Rodgers, Drew Brees, Brent Jones, Kurt Warner, Aeneas
16 Williams, Jason Witten, London Fletcher, and Trent Dilfer; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Davis is the founder of the Thomas Davis Defending Dreams Foundation,
18 an organization built on the principles of "Educate, Empower, Defend" that strives to
19 encourage students to develop essential life and social skills that will make them the leaders
20 of tomorrow; and

21 WHEREAS, the Thomas Davis Youth Leadership Academy equips middle school aged
22 youth with the practical skills needed to become productive, self-fulfilled, and achievement
23 oriented young adults and community leaders; and

24 WHEREAS, the program involves the child, the extended family, and the community,
25 incorporating a school-to-work focus, academic skill development, and leadership
26 development; and

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

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
30 commend Mr. Thomas Antonio Davis and recognize May 8, 2016, as Thomas Davis Day.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
32 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Mr. Thomas
33 Antonio Davis.