

Senate Resolution 874

By: Senator Jackson of the 2nd

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing Mr. Lester Anthony; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Mr. Lester Anthony was born to James and Beatrice Anthony on April 7, 1950;  
3 and
- 4 WHEREAS, interested in music from a young age, Mr. Anthony took his first music lesson  
5 with the help of Deacon Marvin Cobb of First Jerusalem Baptist Church; and
- 6 WHEREAS, gaining experience playing piano in schools, churches, and other locations  
7 throughout his community, he has become a musical pillar of the community; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he has a humble spirit and has been anointed to play God's music; he unselfishly  
9 shares his musical arena with other musicians, choral directors, and musical artists, and has  
10 introduced Savannah, Georgia, to many renowned musical artists who have conducted free  
11 musical workshops with the city's choirs; and
- 12 WHEREAS, a man of many talents, Mr. Anthony is also a highly regarded and gifted floral  
13 designer; and
- 14 WHEREAS, from humble beginnings in Mrs. Louise M. Jones's garage, in 1972 Mr.  
15 Anthony graduated from South Florida School of Floral Design in Lakeland, Florida; Hixson  
16 School of Floral Design in Lakewood, Ohio, in 1985; and received his Masters of Floral  
17 Design from Phil Rulloda School in 1993, and now owns a half million dollar building in  
18 Savannah where he designs floral arrangements for his business, Lester's Florist; and
- 19 WHEREAS, in 1985 and 1989, he was the only black designer among a team of the nation's  
20 most notable designers who created the floral designs for two presidential inaugurations,  
21 President Ronald Reagan and President George H. W. Bush, consecutively; and

22 WHEREAS, he has conducted business in Savannah for 40 years and been recognized as the  
23 2016 Coastal Empire Business Leader of the Year; and

24 WHEREAS, civically engaged, Mr. Anthony has been recognized and honored by the  
25 Savannah Chamber of Commerce, Haven Elementary School, Beach High School, Nations  
26 Bank, United Way, and received the Esther Garrison Principal Award, all for his dedication  
27 and service to the communities in Savannah.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
29 recognize Mr. Lester Anthony for his musical talents, floral success, and philanthropic  
30 engagement in Savannah, Georgia.

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. Lester  
33 Anthony.