

Senate Resolution 1068

By: Senators Seay of the 34th, Davenport of the 44th, Harper of the 7th, Butler of the 55th, Tate of the 38th and others

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Major Gregory E. Barney; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
3 with the passing of Major Gregory E. Barney on February 11, 2016; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Major Barney was born on February 25, 1965, in Camden, New Jersey, a  
5 beloved son of William E. Barney and Lillian Lowber; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he received his formal education in the public school system at Lawnside Public  
7 School and graduated from Haddon Heights High School in 1983, and he was referred to as  
8 Egg Salad in his early years because he loved to eat egg salad; and
- 9 WHEREAS, in his spare time, Major Barney worked diligently as a volunteer fireman and  
10 EMT for 17 years in the Borough of Lawnside, and he supported the Firemen's Association  
11 Station 272 by attending the annual Firemen's Convention in Wildwood, New Jersey; and
- 12 WHEREAS, as a young man, he was referred to as G Money because of his 1986 red IROC,  
13 which he drove like he owned the roads; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Major Barney relocated to the Atlanta area in 1987 to be with his older brother,  
15 Michael Barney, Sr., and pursued his lifelong dream of working with law enforcement as an  
16 officer at the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office before joining the City of Riverdale as a police  
17 officer; and
- 18 WHEREAS, assigned to Riverdale High School as a resource officer, he encouraged  
19 countless students and had a positive impact on many; and
- 20 WHEREAS, while at the high school, he was promoted to Sergeant and transferred back to  
21 patrol, where he was promoted to Captain and then Major; and

22 WHEREAS, Major Barney was the first African American Interim Police Chief for the City  
23 of Riverdale, and he implemented the Crime Reduction Utilizing Statistical History Unit in  
24 2009 while serving as Major; and

25 WHEREAS, he was also a hostage negotiator, received a Certificate of Valor for saving a  
26 life, and recently obtained his associate's degree from Shorter College; and

27 WHEREAS, Major Barney was united in love and marriage to Lisa Coleman on October 10,  
28 1998, and was blessed with twins, Gregory Christian and Robert Christopher, on April 10,  
29 2000; and

30 WHEREAS, full of dignity, wisdom, strength, and courage, Major Barney will long be  
31 remembered for his love of family and friendship and will be missed by all who had the great  
32 fortune of knowing him.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
34 join in honoring the life and memory of Major Gregory E. Barney and express their deepest  
35 and most sincere regret at his passing.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
37 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of  
38 Major Gregory E. Barney.