

## Senate Resolution 1244

By: Senators Davenport of the 44th, Tate of the 38th, Fort of the 39th, James of the 35th, Jones of the 10th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Ms. Helen Odessa Dixon Davenport on the grand occasion of her 90th birthday;  
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Ms. Helen Odessa Dixon Davenport was born on May 16, 1926, in Jonesboro,  
4 Georgia, the beloved daughter of Henry and Clara Dixon, and she received her early  
5 education in the Clayton County Public School System; and

6 WHEREAS, after her graduation from Jonesboro Colored High School in 1942, she earned  
7 a bachelor's degree from Clark College in Atlanta and a master's degree in education from  
8 Atlanta University; and

9 WHEREAS, she is united in love and marriage to her husband, Nathaniel, and is blessed with  
10 two remarkable daughters, Gail, who is the State Senator for the 44th District of Georgia, and  
11 Carolyn, who is a retired teacher; and

12 WHEREAS, during World War II, she worked in the summers of 1943 and 1944 at Atlanta  
13 Army Depot, now called Fort Gillem, where she learned to drive cars, trucks, warehouse  
14 tractors, tow-motor fork lifts, and jitty bugs, and she used the money she earned to pay for  
15 her college tuition; and

16 WHEREAS, it was a joy for her to work at the base and send supplies overseas to soldiers  
17 — many who were her friends and relatives — so they could win the war and come home;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, a lifelong member of Andrews United Methodist Church, Jonesboro, she has  
20 served on the administrative, trustee, and scholarship boards, and her stewardship reaches  
21 far and near as she enjoys the fellowship with members of Andrews Chapel and the  
22 community; and

23 WHEREAS, Ms. Davenport received a great deal of community awards and recognition,  
24 including the 2003 Outstanding and Courageous Service Award from the Greater St. Peter  
25 A.M.E. Church, Jonesboro; the 1982 Clayton County Reading Teacher of the Year Award  
26 as a reading specialist; and recognition for outstanding service to the American Business  
27 Women's Association Greenbriar Chapter, Atlanta; and

28 WHEREAS, she retired in 1990 after teaching for 38 years in the Clayton County Public  
29 School System; and

30 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the exemplary accomplishments of this  
31 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
33 honor Ms. Helen Odessa Dixon Davenport on the grand occasion of her 90th birthday.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
35 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Ms. Helen Odessa  
36 Dixon Davenport.