

Senate Resolution 530

By: Senators Henson of the 41st, Tate of the 38th, Parent of the 42nd, Davenport of the 44th, Anderson of the 43rd and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Judge Ronald B. Ramsey, Sr., on the occasion of his 25th year as a member of the
2 State Bar of Georgia and commending his years of service to the Georgia State Senate; and
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Judge Ronald B. Ramsey, Sr., accepted the oath as an attorney and counselor
5 at law on February 7, 1992, and seven years later, he was appointed as the first African
6 American to serve as a municipal court judge on the Municipal Court of Stone Mountain; and

7 WHEREAS, seven years later, on January 8, 2007, Honorable Ronald B. Ramsey, Sr.,
8 accepted the oath as a Georgia State Senator for District 43 of Georgia, for which he served
9 admirably for nine sessions of the Georgia General Assembly; and

10 WHEREAS, during his tenure as a Georgia State Senator, Judge Ramsey served as Chairman
11 of the Urban Affairs Committee, Chairman of the DeKalb County Legislative Delegation,
12 Chairman of the Rockdale County Legislative Delegation, Vice Chair of the Special
13 Judiciary Committee, and a member of the Judiciary Committee; and

14 WHEREAS, from 2010 through 2014, he was the only African American attorney serving
15 in the Georgia State Senate and was the only African American appointed by Governor
16 Nathan Deal in 2011 to serve on the Criminal Justice Reform Council, which was the
17 foundation and catalyst for a series of historic criminal justice reform initiatives passed by
18 the General Assembly; and

19 WHEREAS, as a Georgia State Senator, he also authored several pieces of legislation to
20 promote civil rights, voting rights, veterans' rights, and criminal justice, and he was named
21 "Legislator Of The Year" by state-wide teacher organizations twice, "Exemplary Legislator"
22 by the Democratic Party of Rockdale County, and "Legislative Hero" by the Stonecrest
23 Alliance; and

24 WHEREAS, on June 30, 2015, Judge Ramsey was appointed by Governor Nathan Deal to
25 the newly formed State Court of DeKalb County – Traffic Division to reform the
26 administration of justice in DeKalb County, and later that year he fulfilled a lifelong goal of
27 being admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States of America; and

28 WHEREAS, Judge Ramsey continues to support the legislative process as a member of the
29 Council of State Court Judges Legislative Task Force; and

30 WHEREAS, he has received numerous awards and honors for his service to humanity and
31 the legal community and has been designated as a "Mentor" by the State Bar of Georgia to
32 mentor and guide new attorneys in the practice of law, and he was further honored with the
33 "Distinguished Alumni Award" by John Marshall Law School in 2011 and the Thurgood
34 Marshall Justice and Service Award by the DeKalb Branch of the NAACP in 2016.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
36 honor and commend Judge Ronald B. Ramsey, Sr., for his service to the legal community
37 and the State of Georgia and extend best wishes for continued health and happiness.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
39 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Judge
40 Ronald B. Ramsey, Sr.