

Senate Resolution 574

By: Senators Jeffares of the 17th, Ginn of the 47th, Unterman of the 45th, Gooch of the 51st, Hill of the 4th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending and congratulating Dewey Lamar Norton on the occasion of his announced
2 retirement; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Lamar Norton assumed the role of fifth executive director of the Georgia
4 Municipal Association (GMA) in 2012; and

5 WHEREAS, under his leadership, the Georgia Municipal Association's voluntary
6 membership increased to its highest number ever in 2016, consisting of 521 cities, and GMA
7 was named metro Atlanta's top 100 places to work three years in a row by the *Atlanta*
8 *Journal Constitution*; and

9 WHEREAS, prior to becoming executive director, Lamar led the Georgia Municipal
10 Association's advocacy efforts at the state Capitol and in Washington, D.C., for ten years,
11 working with the Georgia General Assembly to pass laws ranging from vesting in the City
12 of Atlanta the ability to ask its voters to pass a Municipal Option Sales Tax (MOST) to
13 giving municipal governments a seat at the table in Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax
14 (SPLOST) referenda; and

15 WHEREAS, after his service in the Navy during the Vietnam War, he had a long career with
16 the Georgia Power Company, working his way up from lineman to director of community
17 relations, which included service as the chairman of the Georgia Department of Community
18 Affairs; and

19 WHEREAS, he is so greatly respected for his leadership that *Georgia Trend* named him one
20 of Georgia's "100 Most Influential Georgians" for five years in a row; and

21 WHEREAS, Lamar plans to spend much of his time in retirement mentoring and spending
22 time with his grandson, Liam, who is his pride and joy; and

23 WHEREAS, thanks to his integrity, vision, and determination, Dewey Lamar Norton's
24 decades of service have made Georgia a better place in which to live, and it is abundantly
25 fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this remarkable and distinguished
26 Georgian be appropriately recognized.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
28 commend Dewey Lamar Norton for his many years of exemplary service to municipal
29 governments and to the state, congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement, and extend
30 sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

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 Dewey Lamar
33 Norton.