

House Resolution 877

By: Representatives Belton of the 112th, Dickerson of the 113th, Welch of the 110th, and Rutledge of the 109th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mayor Samuel David Ramsey on his outstanding public service; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mayor Samuel David Ramsey is a fifth generation descendant of original
4 settlers of Newton County, Georgia, and a graduate of Newton County High School (Class
5 of 1957), Oxford College of Emory University (Class of 1959), and Emory University
6 Business School (Class of 1961); and

7 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage with his wife, Rebecca Ann Griffin Ramsey,
8 in 1970 and considered entering the ministry but instead devoted four decades of his time,
9 talents, and energy to the United Methodist Church and Salem Camp Ground; and

10 WHEREAS, Mayor Ramsey is president and CEO of Ramsey Furniture Company, a certified
11 lay speaker for the United Methodist Church, and a member of Gideons International and has
12 served as the chairman of the Salem Camp Ground Program Committee for 53 years and of
13 the Salem Camp Ground Board of Trustees for three years; and

14 WHEREAS, he served on the Covington Planning and Zoning Commission for 17 years, on
15 the Covington City Council for nine years, and as the mayor of Covington for 11 years; and

16 WHEREAS, because of Mayor Ramsey's leadership, the City of Covington was named the
17 "City of Excellence" by *Georgia Trend Magazine* in 2003; the Covington Police Department
18 was awarded the International Webber Seavey Award as the Top Police Department in the
19 World; the Covington Fire Department was internationally accredited as 89th in the world;
20 the City of Covington was selected as Olympic Torch City in the 1996 International
21 Olympics Relay; and every department within the City of Covington government was
22 internationally accredited; and

23 WHEREAS, Mayor Ramsey attracted hundreds of new businesses to the City of Covington
24 with an economic impact of billions of dollars; created many initiatives to create efficiencies
25 and save taxpayer money; built several new government facilities; created THE CENTER,
26 a nonprofit collaborative for planning initiatives in the City of Covington and Newton
27 County; funded the Lake Varner Reservoir; established a homeless shelter and many other
28 facilities for the underprivileged; lengthened the Covington Municipal Airport runway; and
29 refurbished downtown Covington; and

30 WHEREAS, he was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus of Emory University Award
31 in 1989, the Emory Magazine Award for Distinguished Community Service, the Outstanding
32 Christian Service Award by the Wesleyan Christian Advocate, and the R.O. Arnold Award
33 for Community Service by the Newton County Chamber of Commerce in 1993; and

34 WHEREAS, Mayor Ramsey has been a member of the First United Methodist Church of
35 Covington for 79 years, where he has served as the chairman of many boards; and

36 WHEREAS, he served for three years as Material Control Officer with the United States Air
37 Force during the Cuban Missile Crisis, as a local leader and member of the Executive Board
38 of the Atlanta Area Council of Boy Scouts of America for 50 years, and with Kiwanis
39 International for 53 years; and

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

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
43 the members of this body commend Mayor Samuel David Ramsey on his outstanding public
44 service and extend the most sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
46 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
47 Mayor Samuel David Ramsey.