

Senate Resolution 852

By: Senators Davenport of the 44th and Seay of the 34th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Mayor Willie Ray Oswalt; 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 Mayor Willie Ray Oswalt on February 10, 2018; and

4 WHEREAS, Mayor Oswalt was born on September 20, 1940, in Columbus, Mississippi, a  
5 beloved son of James Festus and Normal Estes Oswalt; and

6 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, LaWanda, and was blessed with  
7 two remarkable children, Tamara and Carlton, and eight wonderful grandchildren; and

8 WHEREAS, Mayor Oswalt devoted innumerable hours of his time, talents, and energy  
9 toward the betterment of his community and state as evidenced by his superlative service on  
10 the city council of Lake City, as an educator and football and track coach, with the Atlanta  
11 Regional Commission, and as the mayor of Lake City; and

12 WHEREAS, he helped lead efforts to build a new city hall building, to bring a community  
13 center to Lake City, and to develop the Willie R. Oswalt Nature Preserve and is one of  
14 Georgia's longest-serving mayors; and

15 WHEREAS, Mayor Oswalt gave inspiration to many through his high ideals, morals, and  
16 deep concern for his fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding he  
17 demonstrated to his family and friends were admired by others; and

18 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
19 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he made of his life, he  
20 made this world a better place in which to live; and

21 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mayor Oswalt will long be remembered  
22 for his love of family and friendship and will be missed by all who had the great fortune of  
23 knowing him.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
25 join in honoring the life and memory of Mayor Willie Ray Oswalt and express their deepest  
26 and most sincere regret at his passing.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
28 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of  
29 Mayor Willie Ray Oswalt.