

Senate Resolution 870

By: Senators Tillery of the 19th and Hill of the 4th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending and congratulating R. T. Stanley, Jr., upon his long overdue induction into the
2 Vidalia Onion Growers Hall of Fame; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Stanley's dream of farming took root in 1964 on a 100 acre farm, and as his
4 skill and success as a farmer grew, he was awarded Toombs County Farmer of the Year in
5 1971 and the Georgia Farm Family Award in 1973; and

6 WHEREAS, on the momentum from his awards, Mr. Stanley teamed up with his father and
7 planted his first five acres of Vidalia onions in 1974; and

8 WHEREAS, by the late 1990s, Mr. Stanley had expanded to about 1000 acres of the sweet,
9 bulbous beauties known and loved as Vidalia onions and began to serve as chairperson of the
10 Vidalia Onion Committee and on the Advisory Committee to the Georgia Department of
11 Agriculture; and

12 WHEREAS, he began working with the National Onion Association which further enhanced
13 his skills as a Vidalia onion farmer; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Stanley has worked throughout his career to advance the best interest of
15 Vidalia onions for all their proud farmers and not just for himself; and

16 WHEREAS, after becoming the distinguished recipient of the 2007 Grower of the Year
17 Award from the Vidalia Onion Committee, Mr. Stanley nevertheless continued his dedication
18 to Georgia's official vegetable; and

19 WHEREAS, in 2018, not only has Mr. Stanley achieved the dream, which was first planted
20 more than 50 years ago, of owning the farm that he had sharecropped with his uncle, but he
21 has also rightfully taken his seat in the annals of Vidalia onion history.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
23 commend and congratulate R.T. Stanley, Jr., upon his long overdue induction into the Vidalia
24 Onion Hall of Fame.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
26 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to R. T. Stanley, Jr.