

Senate Resolution 946

By: Senator Lucas of the 26th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Elder Benjamin Ridley as an Outstanding Georgian; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Elder Benjamin Ridley has long been recognized by the citizens of this state
3 and nation for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal
4 commitment to the welfare of others; and

5 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United
6 States Army, valiantly and courageously protecting his fellow Americans during the Vietnam
7 War; and

8 WHEREAS, Elder Ridley has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of
9 his time, talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state as further
10 evidenced by his superlative service with the Keebler Corporation for 28 years; and

11 WHEREAS, affectionately known as "Brother Ben, the People's Friend," he is also affiliated
12 with many civic organizations and churches throughout his local community; and

13 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Elder Ridley has been an active member of
14 Saint James African Methodist Episcopal Church since childhood; was ordained deacon in
15 1971 and itinerant elder in 1981; has served as pastor to several churches in Middle Georgia;
16 and has been a presiding elder for 20 years in the East Macon - Milledgeville District; and

17 WHEREAS, whether the task is preparing a sermon, visiting the sick, counseling the
18 troubled, baptizing a new believer, or acting as a theologian, educator, administrator, or
19 humanitarian, Elder Ridley serves as a shining example of God's righteous path; and

20 WHEREAS, he has been united in love and marriage to his wife, Dorothy, for more than 47
21 years, and they have been blessed with four remarkable children, four wonderful
22 grandchildren, and three incredible great-grandchildren; and

23 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this enduring example of God's message
24 of peace and love be recognized for his many achievements and innumerable good works
25 rendered on behalf of persons in need.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
27 honor Elder Benjamin Ridley as an Outstanding Georgian.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
29 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Elder Benjamin
30 Ridley.