

## Senate Resolution 833

By: Senators Anderson of the 43rd, Anderson of the 24th, Jones II of the 22nd, Davenport of the 17th, Harbison of the 15th and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending the Honorable Willie E. Burns; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Honorable Willie E. Burns, of Washington, Georgia, has long been  
3 recognized by the citizens of this state for the vital role that he has played in leadership and  
4 his deep personal commitment to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and
- 5 WHEREAS, he has served his state and country in the United States Army, the Elberton  
6 Police Department, and the Georgia State Patrol; and
- 7 WHEREAS, in 2003, he was elected as the first Black Mayor of Washington, Georgia; and
- 8 WHEREAS, during his tenure as mayor, he executed his vision of economic development  
9 to his community and region by founding and launching the Wilkes County Community  
10 Development Corporation; and
- 11 WHEREAS, he strengthened the City of Washington's economic base by developing the first  
12 affordable housing community where low and moderate-income individuals and families  
13 were able to obtain the American Dream by becoming homeowners and built the first and  
14 only state of the art multipurpose event venue; and

15 WHEREAS, his significant organizational and leadership talents, remarkable patience and  
16 diplomacy, keen sense of vision, and sensitivity to the needs of the citizens of this state have  
17 earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and associates; and

18 WHEREAS, a dedicated member of his community, he is a member of the NAACP,  
19 Washington, Georgia Branch; a lifetime member of the American Legion; past President of  
20 the Georgia Conference of Black Mayors (GCBM), Inc.; and is an active volunteer at his  
21 church and local schools; and

22 WHEREAS, he is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for  
23 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; and

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

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
27 recognize and commend the Honorable Willie E. Burns for his efficient, effective, unselfish,  
28 and dedicated public service to the State of and extend the most sincere best wishes for  
29 continued health and happiness.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
31 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Honorable  
32 Willie E. Burns.