

Senate Resolution 334

By: Senators Orrock of the 36th, Butler of the 55th, Davenport of the 44th, Anderson of the 43rd, Jackson of the 41st and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Muriel E. Durley; 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 Muriel E. Durley on January 8, 2021; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Muriel E. Durley was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, and raised in
- 5 Hempstead, New York; and
- 6 WHEREAS, a graduate of Fisk University, she served as a member of the French club;
- 7 pledged Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, where she was eventually elected president of her
- 8 chapter; and earned a bachelor's degree in foreign language; and
- 9 WHEREAS, determined to see the world, she became an exchange student and traveled to
- 10 Neuchâtel, Switzerland, where she met her future husband, Reverend Gerald Durley, who
- 11 played for the national team; and
- 12 WHEREAS, upon her return to the United States, she distinguished herself as the first Black
- 13 customer service representative overseeing international accounts for Xerox and was known

14 for running her own ceramic business, creating beautiful pieces that were occasionally sold
15 at ceramic shows; and

16 WHEREAS, as a compassionate educator, she taught elementary school students for eight
17 years and emphasized the importance of molding young minds early and ensuring her
18 students were well prepared; and

19 WHEREAS, Muriel had a deep appreciation for reading, and one of her favorite authors was
20 Danielle Steel; and

21 WHEREAS, she was united in love and marriage to her husband in 1968 and was blessed
22 with two remarkable children, Nia and Hasan, as well as four wonderful grandchildren, Tai,
23 Tori, Niara, and Jelani; and

24 WHEREAS, a woman of deep and abiding faith who witnessed Christ through word and
25 deed, Muriel was the first lady of Providence Missionary Baptist Church; and

26 WHEREAS, she gave inspiration to many through her high ideals, morals, and deep concern
27 for her fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding she demonstrated to
28 her family and friends were admired by others; and

29 WHEREAS, she was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
30 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example she made of her life,
31 she made this world a better place in which to live; and

32 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, Muriel E. Durley will long be
33 remembered for her love of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who
34 had the great fortune of knowing her.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
36 join in honoring the life and memory of Muriel E. Durley and express their deepest and most
37 sincere regret at her passing.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
39 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of
40 Muriel E. Durley.