

Senate Resolution 57

By: Senators Kennedy of the 18th, Gooch of the 51st, Jones II of the 22nd, Anavitarte of the 31st, Robertson of the 29th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. David A. Cook for his service to the Georgia State Senate
2 and the State of Georgia as well as congratulating him upon the grand occasion of his
3 retirement; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Office of the Secretary of the Senate was created in 1789 and has proudly
5 served the citizens of the State of Georgia, along with the Georgia State Senate, for over 235
6 years, with the position being most recently filled by the Honorable David A. Cook; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Cook is united in love and marriage to Beth Cook and is blessed with two
8 remarkable children and two extraordinary grandchildren; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1976, Mr. Cook approached Secretary of the Senate Hamilton McWhorter
10 Jr. regarding a job in the Senate and was hired as a session assistant, serving as a member of
11 the "crew" and learning the workings of the Secretary's Office from the ground up; and

12 WHEREAS, upon completion of his law degree in 1982, he served as an aide to the Judiciary
13 Committee from 1984 to 1990 under Chairman Nathan Deal; and

14 WHEREAS, upon then-Senator Deal's election as President Pro Tempore of this body, Mr.
15 Cook was asked to join him as his Chief of Staff, serving from 1990 to 1992, during which
16 time he helped draft the Georgia General Assembly's ethics rules; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1993, he moved to Washington, D.C., reprising his role as Chief of Staff for
18 United States Representative Nathan Deal, serving Georgia's northernmost counties until
19 1995; and

20 WHEREAS, from 1995 to 2011, he served as an executive with the Medical Association of
21 Georgia; and

22 WHEREAS, from 2011 to 2013, he served as the Commissioner of the Georgia Department
23 of Community Health; and

24 WHEREAS, in 2013, he was selected to serve as the 43rd Secretary of the Georgia State
25 Senate, and he has since upgraded the Senate's electronic voting system, procured the current
26 Senate voting board, and helped launch the project to update the General Assembly's
27 Legislative Management System, all while maintaining the operations and good order of the
28 Office of the Secretary; and

29 WHEREAS, he succeeded in accomplishing this for the past 11 years and has left in place
30 a staff who will ensure that the work of the Office of the Secretary continues at the high
31 standard the Senate has come to expect.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 recognize and commend Mr. David A. Cook for his efficient, effective, unselfish, and
34 dedicated service to the Georgia State Senate and the State of Georgia; congratulate him

35 upon the grand occasion of his retirement; and extend the most sincere best wishes for
36 continued health and happiness.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
38 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Mr. David A.
39 Cook.