

Senate Resolution 358

By: Senators Lucas of the 26th, Brass of the 6th, Cowser of the 46th, Gooch of the 51st and Kennedy of the 18th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Alvin J. Copeland; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Alvin J. Copeland has dedicated 47 years of service to the field of education
3 and athletics, shaping the lives of countless students as a teacher, coach, and mentor; and

4 WHEREAS, he began his distinguished career with the Monroe County Board of Education
5 at Hubbard High School in Forsyth, Georgia, serving from 1964 to 1967 as a health and
6 physical education teacher, assistant coach for football and basketball, and head coach for
7 track and field; and

8 WHEREAS, he joined Northeast High School in Macon, Georgia, in 1970, where he taught
9 health and physical education until 2000, served as department chairman from 1973 to 2000,
10 and worked as athletic director and head coach for cross country, girls basketball, and girls
11 and boys track and field until his retirement in 2011; and

12 WHEREAS, his teams achieved remarkable success, winning five Georgia State
13 Championships in girls basketball in 1975, 1981, 1982, 1985, and 2002, as well as state
14 runner-up titles in 1980 and 2001 and third-place finishes in 1974 and 1976; and

15 WHEREAS, he led his boys track and field teams to state championships in 1975 and 1977,
16 a state runner-up title in 1974, and girls track and field teams to six state championships in
17 1979, 1982, 1986, 2000, 2001, and 2002; and

18 WHEREAS, his teams further secured numerous regional championships, with the girls
19 basketball team earning 16 regional titles between 1972 and 2011, the boys track and field
20 team securing eight regional titles between 1970 and 1977, and the girls track and field team
21 winning 28 regional titles between 1979 and 2009; and

22 WHEREAS, he was inducted into multiple prestigious halls of fame, including the Fort
23 Valley State University Hall of Fame in 1981, the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic
24 Conference Hall of Fame in 2000, the Macon Sports Hall of Fame in 2004, the Georgia
25 Athletic Directors Association Hall of Fame and the Georgia High School Coaches Hall of
26 Fame in 2012, the Fort Valley State University Athletics Hall of Fame in 2015, and the
27 Georgia Athletic Coaches Association Basketball Hall of Fame in 2024; and

28 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this distinguished individual be
29 appropriately honored during this special time.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
31 recognize and commend Alvin J. Copeland for his extraordinary career in education and
32 athletics, honor his lasting contributions to student-athletes across Georgia, and extend best
33 wishes for future health and happiness.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
35 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Alvin J. Copeland.