

House Resolution 520

By: Representatives Rogers of the 29th, Parrish of the 158th, Smyre of the 135th, Ehrhart of the 36th, Williams of the 119th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Tom Daniel for his many years of service to the State of Georgia;
2 congratulating him upon the grand occasion of his retirement; and inviting him to be
3 recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Tom Daniel, Senior Vice Chancellor of External Affairs of the Board of
5 Regents of the University System of Georgia, has long been recognized by the citizens of this
6 state for the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to
7 the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, Tom Daniel earned a degree in political science from the University of Georgia
9 before joining the staff of the George Busbee for Governor Campaign, and upon George
10 Busbee's election, Tom served as his administrative aide, his campaign coordinator for his
11 reelection bid, and his administrative assistant; and

12 WHEREAS, Tom Daniel coordinated the successful Joe Frank Harris for Governor
13 Campaign, then he accepted an offer to become Special Assistant to the Chancellor of the
14 University System of Georgia; and

15 WHEREAS, he represented the Board of Regents and the University System's colleges and
16 universities and used his knowledge and state government contacts to build stronger relations
17 with the executive and legislative branches and other state agencies; and

18 WHEREAS, Tom Daniel served as the chief day-to-day advocate for public higher education
19 in Georgia and enabled the thousands of individuals involved in the operation of the
20 University System to speak with one voice on the matter of funding priorities; and

21 WHEREAS, he was instrumental in making government officials realize the University
22 System's enormous positive influence on the state's economy through the creation of an

23 educated workforce and its ability to attract to Georgia white-collar workers and businesses
24 seeking a skilled workforce; and

25 WHEREAS, during his tenure, the University System of Georgia has experienced record
26 enrollments almost every fall since 1986, with the student headcount soaring from 138,000
27 when he joined the University System to more than 313,000 students; and

28 WHEREAS, Tom Daniel, a humble public servant, who has worked under five governors
29 and six chancellors, always took time out of his busy day to hand write thank you notes to
30 people who helped him; and

31 WHEREAS, he was instrumental in the passage of legislation of significant benefit to higher
32 education, including the establishment of the HOPE program in 1992 as well as its redesign
33 in 2011; and

34 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to Lynn Gilreath Daniel and was blessed
35 with a remarkable son, Corbet, daughter-in-law, Patricia, and two amazing grandchildren,
36 Sophia and Brenna; and

37 WHEREAS, Tom Daniel's many years of dedicated service have made him one of Georgia's
38 most trusted public servants and an outstanding example of a fair and honest man.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
40 the members of this body commend Tom Daniel for his many years of dedicated service to
41 the State of Georgia; congratulate him upon the grand occasion of his retirement; and invite
42 him to be recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time to be determined
43 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
45 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Tom
46 Daniel.