

Senate Resolution 246

By: Senators Jones of the 10th, Ramsey, Sr. of the 43rd and Butler of the 55th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Reverend Ulysses Ponder on the occasion of his 25th
2 anniversary as pastor of Poplar Springs Baptist Church; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Reverend Ulysses Ponder was born on January 14, 1948, in Stockbridge,
4 Georgia, the beloved son of Reverend J.W. and Elvera Ponder; and

5 WHEREAS, Reverend Ponder was united in love and marriage to Annie M. Mack on July,
6 21, 1968, and the two are blessed with two remarkable children, Yolanda and Kevin, and one
7 cherished grandson, Marquise; and

8 WHEREAS, he received his theological education from Metro-Atlanta Ministers School of
9 Training, All Saints Theological Seminary, and Bryant Theological Seminary in Fitzgerald,
10 Georgia; and he continues to further his education to enhance his ministry through courses
11 through the Interdenominational Theological Center, Annual Church Development
12 Conferences held by the Tony Evans Ministries in Dallas, Texas, and the Midwest
13 Theological Institute of Georgia, which recently honored him with an honorary doctorate
14 degree; and

15 WHEREAS, he was previously employed by the Board of Education from 1965 to 1967, and
16 American Motors, where he devoted 27 years of his life as a dedicated employee; and

17 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Reverend Ponder has spent most of his life
18 serving as a spiritual leader in his community and served as a deacon and chair director for
19 21 years at Mount Calvary Baptist Church before he was called to preach and became an
20 ordained minister in 1983; and

21 WHEREAS, he served at Poplar Springs Baptist Church as an associate minister for over
22 three months, associate pastor for nine months, and then as pastor for 25 years; and

23 WHEREAS, Reverend Ponder also served as pastor at Old Mount Calvary Baptist Church
24 in Concord, Georgia, from 1983 to 1987, and under his leadership the church membership
25 grew by 50 percent; and

26 WHEREAS, Reverend Ponder's pastorship has caused a period of incredible growth and
27 prosperity to Poplar Springs Baptist Church as the numbers in attendance at Sunday meetings
28 have increased to overflowing, construction projects geared toward allowing more space and
29 efficiency have begun, and several new ministries have been organized; and

30 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the tremendous efforts of this
31 distinguished leader be recognized as an exemplary Georgian whose drive to serve the
32 community is an asset to the citizens of this state.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 recognize and commend Revered Ulysses Ponder on the grand occasion of his 25th pastoral
35 anniversary and wish him many more years of health and happiness as he continues to serve
36 his community and his Creator.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
38 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Ulysses Ponder.