

Senate Resolution 833

By: Senator James of the 35th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Senator Horacena Tate and the late former Senator Horace
2 Tate for their outstanding public service; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, having served for 26 years in the Georgia State Senate for District 38, Senator
4 Horacena Tate is retiring from the Georgia State Legislature at the end of this legislative
5 session; and

6 WHEREAS, upon her election in 1998, Senator Horacena Tate became the first
7 father/daughter legacy member of the Georgia State Senate by serving in the same Senate
8 District 38 seat as her father, Senator Horace E. Tate (1975-1993); and

9 WHEREAS, although her political career began at an early age when she worked with her
10 father's campaigns and Get Out The Vote (GOTV) efforts, her professional career started
11 when she became an employee in the Georgia Department of Labor in 1977; and

12 WHEREAS, Senator Horace Tate learned the value of education early on from his mother,
13 not just as a means of personal growth, but as a way to combat oppression, and he would
14 become the first African-American to earn a Ph. D. from the University of Kentucky; and

15 WHEREAS, his career started soon after he received his undergraduate degree, as principal
16 of two schools in Georgia, the first in Union Point, the second in Greensboro, and he was the
17 first African-American to run for mayor of Atlanta, Georgia, although unsuccessfully; and

18 WHEREAS, he served as the chief executive of the Georgia Teachers and Education
19 Association soon after it became integrated, and then he became the first executive director
20 of the Georgia Association of Educators and a leader in the teacher's union. Much of his
21 work involved uniting the efforts of both black and white teachers toward providing equal
22 resources to all children in the state; and

23 WHEREAS, in 1974, he was elected to serve in the Georgia State Senate, District 38, a
24 position he held for 16 years and his focus in the legislature, as it had been his whole career,
25 was to promote educational equity and protect voting rights; and

26 WHEREAS, throughout her career, Senator Horacena Tate has been a tireless advocate in
27 the areas of education; senior citizens' rights; women's rights; and accessible and affordable
28 health care for infants, children, and families; and

29 WHEREAS, Senator Horacena Tate has been recognized for her service in the Georgia State
30 Senate and throughout the community, receiving numerous awards over the years such as the
31 Public Servant Award from the Coalition on Hunger, Top 100 Women of Vision Award from
32 the Atlanta Business League, Public Servant Award from the Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
33 Merchant Association, and many more; and

34 WHEREAS, Senator Horacena Tate has been an active member of Cascade United
35 Methodist Church for many years and has served as a member of the United Methodist
36 Women's Group as well as Alpha Kappa Alpha Inc. (AKA) National Sorority, where she

37 previously held a leadership role as corresponding secretary for the sorority's Kappa Omega
38 Chapter and annually co-sponsors AKA Day at the Capitol; and

39 WHEREAS, following in her father's footsteps, Senator Horacena Tate has served Senate
40 District 38, the Georgia State Senate, and the people of Georgia with honor and distinction,
41 and her steadfast leadership and devotion to public service will continue to be an inspiration
42 for young girls, women, and anyone aspiring to enter politics in service to their community;
43 and

44 WHEREAS, both Senators Tate have fought the good fight and their significant
45 organizational and leadership talents, remarkable patience and diplomacy, keen sense of
46 vision, sensitivity to the needs of the citizens of this state, and significant legislative
47 successes earned them the respect and admiration of their colleagues and associates; and

48 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of these
49 two remarkable and distinguished Georgians be appropriately recognized.

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
51 recognize and commend Senator Horacena Tate and the late former Senator Horace Tate for
52 their outstanding public service to the State of Georgia, congratulate Senator Horacena Tate
53 upon the grand occasion of her retirement, and extend to her sincere best wishes for success,
54 health, and happiness.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
56 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Senator Horacena
57 Tate.