

Senate Resolution 903

By: Senator Wilkinson of the 50th

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Billy A. Burrell; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Billy A. Burrell has long been recognized by the citizens of this state for the  
3 vital role that he has played as a radio broadcaster for 69 years; and
- 4 WHEREAS, he has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time,  
5 talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state as evidenced  
6 dramatically by his superlative service with WCON in Cornelia, Georgia, since 1965; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Billy was born on March 14, 1930, in Dillard, Georgia, and attended Bob Jones  
8 University before becoming a pastor at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, where he met his loving  
9 wife, Eugenie; their union was blessed with a wonderful daughter, Neysa Joy, in 1961; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Billy started in radio in 1951 as an early morning announcer at WLET in  
11 Toccoa, where his program of uplifting Gospel music included a daily devotion; and so  
12 began "Sunshine Melodies," now the longest running weekday radio show hosted by the  
13 same person in North America; and
- 14 WHEREAS, now approaching the age of 90, Billy Burrell is a unique radio broadcaster  
15 whose ability to stay on the air for nearly seven decades is a tribute to the man, the radio  
16 station that airs him, and the loyal north Georgia listeners who have made him a part of their  
17 lives for generations; and
- 18 WHEREAS, his folksy style, compassion for others, and impact on those in his community  
19 who have had the great pleasure of listening to him will never be forgotten; and
- 20 WHEREAS, he is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for  
21 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; and

22 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
23 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
25 recognize and commend Billy A. Burrell and extend most sincere best wishes for his  
26 continued health and happiness.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
28 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Billy A. Burrell.