

Senate Resolution 968

By: Senators Martin of the 9th, Unterman of the 45th, Millar of the 40th and Shafer of the 48th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Merri M. Brantley; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
3 with the passing of Merri M. Brantley on March 4, 2018; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Merri was born on November 3, 1959, in Okinawa, Japan, where her father was
5 stationed with the military and spent her youth in Belgium before coming stateside; and
- 6 WHEREAS, a beloved daughter of retired Air Force Colonel Gene and Lucia Brantley, Merri
7 was a loving and doting aunt to three beautiful nieces, Cara Leigh, Kimberly, and Stephanie,
8 and two handsome nephews, Clint and Logan; and
- 9 WHEREAS, she gave inspiration to many through her high ideals, morals, and deep concern
10 for her fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding she demonstrated to
11 her family and friends were admired by others; and
- 12 WHEREAS, working for then State House Minority Leader Johnny Isakson in the 1980s,
13 serving as Senate Press Director, and most recently being employed as the Executive
14 Director of Governmental Affairs for Georgia Gwinnett College, Merri's passion for politics
15 and education girded the bounds of her remarkable career; and
- 16 WHEREAS, she was affectionately known as Merri Grace, queen of the third floor and
17 keeper of the Gold Dome Etiquette Guide, and the press corps called her "Sweet B"; and
- 18 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, Merri will long be remembered for her
19 love of family and friendship and will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing
20 her.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
22 join in honoring the life and memory of Merri M. Brantley and express their deepest and
23 most sincere regret at her passing.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
25 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of
26 Merri M. Brantley.