

Senate Resolution 986

By: Senators Anderson of the 43rd, Harbison of the 15th, Davenport of the 44th, Butler of the 55th, Jackson of the 2nd and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Fred Williams on the grand occasion of his retirement; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Fred Williams grew up in Spartanburg, South Carolina, and was the first of five
4 siblings to attend college, to which he gives God all the credit; and

5 WHEREAS, being raised in Spartanburg came with its positives and negatives, and Fred
6 decided at an early age that receiving an education would be his way up and out of poverty;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, armed with faith in God and a strong determination to do better, he set out for
9 Knoxville College in Knoxville, Tennessee, which became his home for the next four years;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Fred's focused and unwavering resolve assisted him in maintaining his status
12 as an honors student from September to May and in working on passenger trains over the
13 summer to earn money for tuition; and

14 WHEREAS, he used his remaining free time to pledge to a fraternity and is a proud member
15 of Omega Psi Phi; and

16 WHEREAS, Fred is also a fierce marathon runner, a sports enthusiast, and was a member of
17 the opening and closing ceremonies for the 1996 Olympics, which was held in Atlanta; and

18 WHEREAS, after graduating from Knoxville College, Fred accepted a sales position with
19 the 3M Company, rising through the ranks from sales associate to sales executive at the top
20 of his field; and

21 WHEREAS, over the course of the 40 years he spent with 3M, Fred received a plethora of
22 awards and recognition; and

23 WHEREAS, six years ago, Fred retired, and began another satisfying and most enjoyable
24 journey in spending unparalleled time with his children and grandchildren; and

25 WHEREAS, he also mentors middle and high school students through the Right Choices
26 Program; supervises a staff of volunteer workers; interacts with principals, counselors, and
27 support staff at feeder schools; serves as a deacon at his church; and volunteers in political
28 campaigns and community cleanups; and

29 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding service of this exemplary
30 citizen be appropriately recognized.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 recognize and commend Fred Williams on the grand occasion of his retirement and extend
33 most sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
35 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Fred Williams.