

House Resolution 1179

By: Representatives Porter of the 143rd, McBee of the 88th, Mobley of the 69th, Buck of the 135th, Smyre of the 136th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Dr. Stephen R. Portch as the Chancellor of the University System of Georgia
2 and inviting him to appear before this body; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen R. Portch has served with distinction as the Chancellor of the
4 University System of Georgia since July 1, 1994, and his departure on January 1, 2002, finds
5 higher education at a new, superior level and the envy of other states; and

6 WHEREAS, he came to Georgia in 1994 after 18 years in the University of Wisconsin
7 System where he had significant administrative positions and was a professor of English; and

8 WHEREAS, his leadership of the University System of Georgia has received national
9 recognition and he is regarded as one of the most influential voices within the academy; and

10 WHEREAS, he immediately engaged in a sweeping review of institutions and their missions
11 and proposed with the Board of Regents new guiding principles to serve as the foundation
12 for a comprehensive uplifting of the entire university system; and

13 WHEREAS, he earnestly and eagerly directed a thorough evaluation of the state's public
14 institutions and enlisted the support of the Board of Regents, business leaders, and educators
15 to develop strategic planning at all levels; and

16 WHEREAS, he implemented a significant benchmarking initiative that has raised student
17 academic admission requirements at all units and is cited as a national model for increasing
18 state educational attainment levels; and

19 WHEREAS, today Georgia has a stronger, more diverse faculty with talented presidents and
20 is a leader in the utilization of technology to broaden citizen access to higher education.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 this body commends Dr. Stephen R. Portch for his superb vision and success; expresses to
3 him their appreciation, respect, and best wishes for the future; and invites him to appear
4 before this body at a time to be determined by the Speaker of the House.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
6 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Chancellor Portch.