

Senate Resolution 214

By: Senators James of the 35<sup>th</sup>, Brown of the 26<sup>th</sup>, Harbison of the 15<sup>th</sup>, Butler of the 55<sup>th</sup>,  
Walker of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Stokes of the 43rd

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing the Honorable Winnie Mandela; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Winnie Mandela is internationally renowned for her courageous activism and  
3 leadership during the South African anti-apartheid movement and for outspoken advocacy  
4 for women's rights worldwide; and
- 5 WHEREAS, she was born on September 26, 1936, in Bizana Transkei, the fourth of eight  
6 children; and
- 7 WHEREAS, her involvement in the South African liberation struggles dates back to the  
8 1950's; and
- 9 WHEREAS, she was first arrested in 1958, and in 1969 she became one of the first detainees  
10 under the notorious Terrorism Act and was detained in solitary confinement for 18 months;  
11 and
- 12 WHEREAS, after the 1976 Soweta uprising in which police killed hundreds of school  
13 children, Mrs. Mandela arranged funerals and formed support groups to help the aggrieved  
14 parents, and subsequently founded the nation-wide Black Parents' Association; and
- 15 WHEREAS, on May 16, 1977, she was exiled to Brand Fort for nine years; and
- 16 WHEREAS, she suffered continuous harassment from the South African government and  
17 endured the bombing of her house and a forced separation from her husband, Nelson  
18 Mandela, who was imprisoned on Robben Island for 25 years; and
- 19 WHEREAS, Winnie Mandela's courage and optimism triumphed over years of political  
20 persecution, severe personal pain, and a wave of media controversy and enabled her to  
21 become the President of the African National Congress' Women's League in 1993; and

1 WHEREAS, in 1991, she was elected National Executive to the African National Congress  
2 and presently maintains her position as a member of Parliament.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
4 recognize and commend the Honorable Winnie Mandela for wisdom, courage, vision,  
5 leadership, and extraordinary accomplishment.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to  
7 transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Honorable Winnie Mandela.