

Senate Resolution 196

By: Senator Harbison of the 15th

A RESOLUTION

1 To commend Mrs. Zelma Hennessey and South Westview Against Drugs; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, illegal drugs and associated crime can destroy families and neighborhoods of
4 all economic and social strata; and

5 WHEREAS, when Columbus's South Westview neighborhood became infested with drug
6 dealing, Mrs. Zelma Hennessey decided to take a stand by forming SWAD (South Westview
7 Against Drugs) Columbus; and

8 WHEREAS, SWAD is based on Turn Around America-Wrice Process, founded by the late
9 Herman Wrice and cofounded by Andy Garr, and is focused on taking back their
10 neighborhood and keeping it free from drugs and drug dealers; and

11 WHEREAS, through ongoing targeted antidrug marches and "camp outs," SWAD became
12 a catalyst for community and economic development, spawning the "Reclaim Our Children"
13 after-school program and youth baseball and football teams, helping establish the first
14 Antidrug World Series Baseball Tournament, and bringing 65 new Habitat For Humanity
15 homes; and

16 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hennessey sponsored the first Turn Around America National
17 Drugfighters Reunion and has developed SWAD into a national model, having helped
18 provide Turn Around America-Wrice Process training for other neighborhoods in Georgia,
19 South Carolina, Florida, and Texas; and

20 WHEREAS, Mrs. Hennessey has inspired and influenced an untold number as a mother,
21 adoptive mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, friend, leader, and heroine; and

1 WHEREAS, because of her indefatigable leadership, tenacity, commitment, and courage
2 Mrs. Hennessey has become known as the godmother of drugfighting.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
4 commend Mrs. Zelma Hennessey and SWAD for taking their neighborhood back from the
5 terrorism of drugs and giving children and youth a positive future.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
7 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mrs. Zelma Hennessey.