

Senate Resolution 763

By: Senator Thomas of the 2nd

### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Sondra Marie Barnes, outstanding citizen; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Sondra Marie Barnes is the beloved daughter of Mrs. Estella Barnes and the late  
4 Elmer Barnes, Sr.; and

5 WHEREAS, she is a 1967 outstanding graduate of Alfred Ely Beach High School, later  
6 attending Armstrong State College and receiving her Clinical Medical Laboratory  
7 certification from Columbia University in 1976, an AAS in Medical Technology from Bronx  
8 Community College in 1978, and a BS in Biology from Long Island University in 1983; and

9 WHEREAS, Sondra Marie Barnes lives a committed life of service to mankind through  
10 medicine and community involvement as demonstrated by her many years of work at the  
11 Virginia Commonwealth University Health System – Medical College of Virginia Hospitals;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, in 1983 she began her volunteer public service work with the Hal Jackson  
14 Talented Teens International Scholarship Program and the New York State Hal Jackson  
15 Talented Teens, which supports the performing talent of teenage girls nationally and  
16 internationally; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1996, Ms. Barnes founded and now serves as Executive Director of Capital  
18 City Teen Production, Inc., a nonprofit educational organization, and the first African  
19 American organization in Virginia to sponsor an America's Junior Miss Scholarship  
20 Program, a nationwide scholarship program for high school senior girls; and

21 WHEREAS, her commitment to the public is further demonstrated by her service as a mentor  
22 for the "Big Brother, Big Sister of America" organization; and

23 WHEREAS, upon retiring to her home in Savannah, Georgia, she renewed her membership  
24 with the St. Philip Monumental AME Church, where she is a faithful and active member, and  
25 continued her tireless service to others, acting as a member of the Trustee Board, President  
26 of the Local Lay Organization, Secretary of the West Savannah District Lay Organization,  
27 member of Vision 2000 Community Development Corporation, Inc., member of the

1 Executive Committee of the Savannah Branch of the NAACP, and volunteer with the  
2 Chatham County Juvenile Court Mentor Volunteer Program; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2007 Capital City Teen Production, in cooperation with Beach High School  
4 and the Ninth Grade Academy, sponsored the first Alfred E. Beach High School Page  
5 Program sending a student to a summer internship program at Stanford University in Palo  
6 Alto, California; and

7 WHEREAS, Sondra Marie Barnes is a woman of great compassion and deep concern for her  
8 friends and fellow citizens, and her loving, generous, and courageous spirit is an example to  
9 all who know her; and it is only fitting and proper that this fine and distinguished citizen who  
10 is a loving and caring public servant and friend to so many be appropriately recognized.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
12 commend Sondra Marie Barnes for her exemplary public service to this state and extend their  
13 sincere gratitude for her many contributions to her fellow citizens.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
15 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Sondra Marie Barnes.