

Senate Resolution 874

By: Senator Harbison of the 15th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Billie Holmes, Mat Swift, Mayor Jim Wetherington, Frank Brown, and City
2 Manager Isaiah Hugley; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the preservation and rehabilitation of historic places have contributed to the
4 economic and social well-being of our state by revitalizing downtowns, rehabilitating historic
5 neighborhoods, attracting tourists, increasing tax bases, and creating jobs and real estate
6 investment opportunities in historic districts throughout Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, about three-quarters of a billion private dollars have been invested in
8 completing certified historic rehabilitation projects in Georgia administered by the Historic
9 Preservation Division of the Department of Natural Resources; and

10 WHEREAS, historic sites are the number one destination chosen by visitors to Georgia, and
11 heritage tourism is a major feature of Georgia's \$28 billion tourism economy that employs
12 217,000 Georgians with a return of \$1.3 billion in state and local tax revenue; and

13 WHEREAS, Columbus State University has become a recognized leader in the historic
14 preservation arena through its many innovative programs and services including its
15 sponsorship of the Preservation Award program; and

16 WHEREAS, Billie Holmes, Mat Swift, Mayor Jim Wetherington, Frank Brown, and City
17 Manager Isaiah Hugley were recognized at the 41st Annual Meeting and Preservation
18 Awards program for their outstanding efforts and unswerving commitment to Uptown
19 Columbus through the addition of the Front Avenue Parking Deck; and

20 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that they be recognized appropriately for their
21 outstanding efforts.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
2 commend Billie Holmes, Mat Swift, Mayor Jim Wetherington, Frank Brown, and City
3 Manager Isaiah Hugley for the superlative services they have rendered to the State of
4 Georgia through their inspired efforts on behalf of historic preservation.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
6 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Billie Holmes, Mat Swift, Mayor Jim
7 Wetherington, Frank Brown, and City Manager Isaiah Hugley.