A RESOLUTION

Commending Robert Ashley and Randy Perez; and for other purposes. 1

2 WHEREAS, the preservation and rehabilitation of historic places have contributed to the

3 economic and social well-being of our state by revitalizing downtowns, rehabilitating historic

4 neighborhoods, attracting tourists, increasing tax bases, and creating jobs and real estate

5 investment opportunities in historic districts throughout Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, about three-quarters of a billion private dollars have been invested in

7 completing certified historic rehabilitation projects in Georgia administered by the Historic

8 Preservation Division of the Department of Natural Resources; and

9 WHEREAS, historic sites are the number one destination chosen by visitors to Georgia, and

10 heritage tourism is a major feature of Georgia's \$28 billion tourism economy that employs

11 217,000 Georgians with a return of \$1.3 billion in state and local tax revenue; and

12 WHEREAS, Columbus State University has become a recognized leader in the historic 13 preservation arena through its many innovative programs and services including its

14 sponsorship of the Preservation Award program; and

15 WHEREAS, Robert Ashley and Randy Perez were recognized at the 41st Annual Meeting

and Preservation Awards program for their outstanding efforts in the rehabilitation of 1123 16

17 Broadway; and

18 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that they be recognized appropriately for their 19 outstanding efforts.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body commend Robert Ashley and Randy Perez for the superlative services they have rendered 21 to the State of Georgia through their inspired efforts on behalf of historic preservation. 22

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- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
- 2 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Robert Ashley and Randy Perez.