

Senate Resolution 616

By: Senator Jones of the 10th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mrs. Jerelean D. "Jeri" Thornton on the occasion of her  
2 retirement; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mrs. Jerelean D. "Jeri" Thornton has long been recognized by the citizens of  
4 this state for the vital role that she has played in the teaching profession and her deep  
5 personal commitment to the education of the students of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, a native of Deerfield Beach, Florida, Mrs. Thornton graduated from Pompano  
7 Beach Senior High School and holds a bachelor's degree in early childhood development and  
8 elementary education from Florida A&M University and a master's degree in education from  
9 Cambridge College; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Thornton began her teaching career in Rockdale County at Flat Shoals  
11 Elementary School as a third grade instructor, and throughout the years, she has taught at  
12 Chapel Hill Elementary School and Canby Lane Elementary School; and

13 WHEREAS, at each school, Mrs. Thornton was active in enriching and inspiring the future  
14 leaders of Georgia through her involvement in the Sunshine Committee, the BETA Club,  
15 Student Council, 4-H Club, Career Day, Black History Month, Field Day, Teacher of the  
16 Year Committee, and serving as a mentor; and

17 WHEREAS, Mrs. Thornton serves as an example to her neighbors and students with her  
18 dedicated involvement with such organizations as the NAACP, American Business Women  
19 of America, the League of Educators, GAE/ODE, the National Congress of Black Women,  
20 the National Council of Negro Women, and Delta Sigma Theta sorority; and

21 WHEREAS, a devoted woman of faith, Mrs. Thornton is an active member of Greater Piney  
22 Grove Baptist Church, where she has served on committees providing Easter programs,  
23 Black History education, tutoring, and mentoring; and

24 WHEREAS, Mrs. Thornton has been united in love and marriage to Nathaniel "Nick"  
25 Thornton for 34 years, and they are the proud parents of three daughters, Angela, LaTasha,  
26 and Nikkia; and

27 WHEREAS, in recognition of her contributions to the students in this state, it is abundantly  
28 fitting and proper for this body to honor the extraordinary commitment and accomplishments  
29 of this outstanding individual.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
31 heartily and gratefully commend Mrs. Jerelean D. "Jeri" Thornton for her years of sacrifice,  
32 foresight, accomplishment, and contributions on behalf of education in Georgia and for the  
33 positive influence she has had upon the lives and futures of countless young people in this  
34 state.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
36 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mrs. Jerelean D. "Jeri" Thornton.