

Senate Resolution 721

By: Senator Carter of the 1st

### A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of May Lewis Poetter; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
3 with the passing of May Lewis Poetter on January 11, 2012; and

4 WHEREAS, May was born on July 30, 1917, in Collins, Mississippi, a beloved daughter of  
5 Frank Lewis and May Olive Keys Lewis; and

6 WHEREAS, a woman of deep and abiding faith, May was a dedicated member of Skidaway  
7 Island United Methodist Church and an active member of Bull Street Baptist Church, where  
8 she ministered to many students through the Christian Student Fellowship; and

9 WHEREAS, May was united in love and marriage to her late husband, Paul, and was blessed  
10 with two remarkable children, Paula and Pam, and seven wonderful grandchildren; and

11 WHEREAS, May graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi with a bachelor's  
12 degree in elementary education, earned a master's degree in education from Emory  
13 University, and later entered the Atlanta Public School System as an elementary school  
14 teacher; and

15 WHEREAS, she is best known for having co-founded Savannah College of Arts and Design  
16 (SCAD) in 1978, which is the most comprehensive nonprofit and accredited art and design  
17 university in the world, with 11,063 students, more than 700 faculty, and campuses in  
18 Savannah, Atlanta, Lacoste, and Hong Kong, as well as online; and

19 WHEREAS, she maintained membership in many clubs and organizations, including  
20 Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims, National Order  
21 of Colonial Dames, The 100 Club, International Chapter of the PEO Sisterhood, Kappa Delta  
22 Epsilon, the Shadrack Rodgers Chapter, and the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation; and

23 WHEREAS, she gave inspiration to many through her high ideals, morals, and deep concern  
24 for her fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding she demonstrated to  
25 her family and friends were admired by others; and

26 WHEREAS, she was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
27 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness and, by the example she made of her life,  
28 she made this world a better place in which to live; and

29 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, May Lewis Poetter will long be  
30 remembered for her love of family and friendship, and this loyal daughter, wife, mother,  
31 grandmother, and friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing her.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
33 join in honoring the life and memory of May Lewis Poetter and express their deepest and  
34 most sincere regret at her passing.

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 the family of May Lewis Poetter.