

Senate Resolution 1343

By: Senator Tate of the 38th

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Steven Wayne Smith; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Steven Wayne Smith has successfully completed the Christian Rites of Passage  
3 (CRoP) program created at Cascade United Methodist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, a yearlong  
4 leadership program for high school students entering their sophomore or junior year; and
- 5 WHEREAS, participants in the program are immersed in a 12 step Christian based rites of  
6 passage program that encourages positive progression from one stage of life to another  
7 through personal enrichment, educational support, and community service projects; and
- 8 WHEREAS, the key messages of the CRoP program are nurturing spiritual growth; building  
9 humanity, kindness, and compassion; inspiring spiritual empowerment and leadership; and  
10 developing healthy self-esteem, self-pride, and self-excellence; and
- 11 WHEREAS, the CRoP program was founded in 2003 by Ida Ruth Irwin Crook and has  
12 support and guidance from the senior pastor at Cascade United Methodist Church, Reverend  
13 Marvin A. Moss; and
- 14 WHEREAS, since it was established, the CRoP program has spiritually nurtured more than  
15 150 young people who have come back to speak to new program participants and share  
16 personal experiences on how the program positively impacted their lives; and
- 17 WHEREAS, the Christian Rites of Passage program has been a positive force in the  
18 community with 93 percent of its graduates moving forward to pursue college degrees; and
- 19 WHEREAS, each year, the CRoP program culminates with a Candlelight Award Ceremony  
20 and Debutante and Beau Recognition Celebration Ball to bring together families and friends  
21 to celebrate the accomplishments of the program's participants.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
23 commend Steven Wayne Smith, beloved son of Steve and Debra Smith, for successfully  
24 completing the 2011-2012 Christian Rites of Passage program at Cascade United Methodist  
25 Church and extend to him their sincere best wishes for future success.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
27 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Steven Wayne Smith.