

Senate Resolution 1345

By: Senator Tate of the 38th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Justin McDuff Simpson-James; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Justin McDuff Simpson-James has successfully completed the Christian Rites  
3 of Passage (CRoP) program created at Cascade United Methodist Church in Atlanta,  
4 Georgia, a yearlong leadership program for high school students entering their sophomore  
5 or junior year; and

6 WHEREAS, participants in the program are immersed in a 12 step Christian based rites of  
7 passage program that encourages positive progression from one stage of life to another  
8 through personal enrichment, educational support, and community service projects; and

9 WHEREAS, the key messages of the CRoP program are nurturing spiritual growth; building  
10 humanity, kindness, and compassion; inspiring spiritual empowerment and leadership; and  
11 developing healthy self-esteem, self-pride, and self-excellence; and

12 WHEREAS, the CRoP program was founded in 2003 by Ida Ruth Irwin Crook and has  
13 support and guidance from the senior pastor at Cascade United Methodist Church, Reverend  
14 Marvin A. Moss; and

15 WHEREAS, since it was established, the CRoP program has spiritually nurtured more than  
16 150 young people who have come back to speak to new program participants and share  
17 personal experiences on how the program positively impacted their lives; and

18 WHEREAS, the Christian Rites of Passage program has been a positive force in the  
19 community with 93 percent of its graduates moving forward to pursue college degrees; and

20 WHEREAS, each year, the CRoP program culminates with a Candlelight Award Ceremony  
21 and Debutante and Beau Recognition Celebration Ball to bring together families and friends  
22 to celebrate the accomplishments of the program's participants.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
24 commend Justin McDuff Simpson-James, beloved son of Kathryn Simpson, for successfully  
25 completing the 2011-2012 Christian Rites of Passage program at Cascade United Methodist  
26 Church and extend to him their sincere best wishes for future success.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
28 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Justin McDuff Simpson-James.