

Senate Resolution 480

By: Senators Davenport of the 44th, James of the 35th, Tate of the 38th, Fort of the 39th, Orrock of the 36th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum on the occasion of her retirement;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Tatum has long been recognized by the citizens of this state for the vital role
4 that she has played in leadership and her deep personal commitment to the welfare of the
5 citizens of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, she has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of her time,
7 talents, and energy toward the betterment of her community and state as evidenced
8 dramatically by her superlative service as the president of Spelman College; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Tatum has served as president of Spelman College since 2002; her tenure
10 as president has been marked by a period of great innovation and growth; and

11 WHEREAS, in 2012, Dr. Tatum made the bold decision to withdraw from NCAA
12 intercollegiate sports participation, a program serving less than 100 students, in favor of a
13 campus-wide wellness initiative designed to impact the entire student community of 2,100;
14 collectively, these improvements served as the foundation for Strengthening the Core: The
15 Strategic Plan for 2015, which focuses on global engagement, expanded opportunities for
16 undergraduate research and internships, alumnae-student connections, leadership
17 development, and service learning linked to an increasingly interdisciplinary curriculum; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Tatum is widely recognized as a race relations expert and leader in higher
19 education; her areas of research include racial identity development and the role of race in
20 the classroom; and

21 WHEREAS, she is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, and in 2005, she
22 was awarded the prestigious Brock International Prize in Education for her innovative
23 leadership in the field; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Tatum's significant organizational and leadership talents, her remarkable
25 patience and diplomacy, her keen sense of vision, and her sensitivity to the needs of the
26 citizens of this state have earned her the respect and admiration of her colleagues and
27 associates; and

28 WHEREAS, Dr. Tatum has served with honor and distinction as the president of Spelman
29 College, and her vision and unyielding commitment will be sorely missed upon the occasion
30 of her retirement; and

31 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
32 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 commend Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum for her efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated
35 public service to the State of Georgia; congratulate her upon the grand occasion of her
36 retirement; and extend to her their most sincere best wishes for continued health and
37 happiness.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
39 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dr. Beverly Daniel
40 Tatum.