

## Senate Resolution 670

By: Senators Thompson of the 14th, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Heath of the 31st, Tippins of the 37th, Millar of the 40th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dr. John Harper; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Dr. John Harper earned a bachelor's degree at Baptists College in South  
3 Carolina, a specialist degree at The Citadel, and a doctorate from the University of South  
4 Carolina in curriculum and instruction; and

5 WHEREAS, he has served for a total of 49 years in education, starting as a classroom teacher  
6 in South Carolina, and ending with nearly ten years as the Superintendent of Bartow County  
7 Schools; and

8 WHEREAS, he understands the importance of implementing technology in an academic  
9 curriculum and has established multiple technological innovations, such as the 1-1  
10 Conversion program, which provided students with laptops to bolster their academic  
11 experience and resulted in nearly every student in Bartow County Schools from 4th to 12th  
12 grades having access to an Apple MacBook Air for daily use; and

13 WHEREAS, he remains active at the Bartow County College and Career Academy, which  
14 has connected secondary, postsecondary, business and industry partners, and community  
15 based organizations to build seamless pathways immediately into the workforce for students  
16 after graduation; and

17 WHEREAS, under Dr. Harper's leadership, the Bartow County College and Career Academy  
18 received a state grant for facility modifications, amounting to \$32,000, to provide quality  
19 training in science, engineering, nursing, and public safety; and

20 WHEREAS, he opened opportunities for continued development in Bartow County by using  
21 funds from SPLOST IV to provide a new band room for South Central Middle School, to  
22 update the athletic facility and fields at Adairsville High School, and to complete the 9th  
23 Grade Academy at Woodland High School; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Harper's leadership through uncertain times brought stability to the system,  
25 and even when faced with the challenges of the economic downturn, he exhibited his  
26 compassionate nature by taking a reduction in salary to help with reduced funds from the  
27 state; and

28 WHEREAS, Dr. Harper truly loves the service of ensuring a bright future for children and  
29 has fought to maintain art, music, physical education programs, and nurses in every school.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
31 recognize Dr. John Harper's astounding contributions to Bartow County Schools, the  
32 community, and the legacy that will remain after his retirement.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
34 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dr. John Harper.