

Senate Resolution 791

By: Senator Harbison of the 15th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dawnell Jacobs on her accomplishments as a teacher and  
2 author; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, at only 17 years of age, Dawnell Jacobs was homeless and alone, with her  
4 mother on the run after having seriously injured her stepfather, and her brothers having been  
5 taken into foster care during her senior year of high school; and

6 WHEREAS, despite the unfortunate circumstances she was placed in, Dawnell managed to  
7 fight her way through the years, putting herself through a rigorous three years of college  
8 course work at Columbus State University and graduate school in order to raise enough  
9 money to get her brothers out of foster care; and

10 WHEREAS, because her family had faced many trials and tribulations, Dawnell began to use  
11 writing as a way of coping with the negative mental and emotional affects of her harsh  
12 upbringing; and

13 WHEREAS, upon receiving encouragement and positive feedback from friends that had read  
14 the stories she had crafted in her spare time, Dawnell started her own publishing company  
15 and wrote her first book, entitled *The Monsters Within*; and

16 WHEREAS, she soon wrote and published *The Shades of Devotion*, which draws from her  
17 personal experiences of domestic violence and dysfunctional upbringing, and is her most  
18 popular novel to date; and

19 WHEREAS, she has published four novels so far, with a fifth on its way, and is well on her  
20 way to great success; and

21 WHEREAS, Dawnell is a language arts teacher at Early College Academy and is focusing  
22 on pursuing her dream of becoming a bestselling author through drawing on the stories of  
23 her own turbulent life for inspiration; and

24 WHEREAS, through her work she aims to prove that black authors can be mainstream  
25 authors, and that there is a place and a voice for African-American communities in the world  
26 of literature; and

27 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the hard work, unwavering  
28 determination, and merited success of this exemplary Georgian be appropriately recognized.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
30 recognize and commend Dawnell Jacobs on her accomplishments as a teacher and author.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
32 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dawnell Jacobs.