

Senate Resolution 591

By: Senator Davenport of the 17th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Spelman Day at the Georgia State Capitol; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Spelman College, founded in 1881, in Atlanta, Georgia, is a nationally
3 acclaimed private liberal arts college for women and the oldest historically Black college for
4 women in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, for more than 143 years, Spelman College has been dedicated to academic
6 excellence, leadership development, and social responsibility, educating women to engage
7 the world and effect positive social change; and

8 WHEREAS, Spelman College is the number one producer of Black women who complete
9 doctoral degrees in STEM disciplines, according to the National Science Foundation, and
10 continues to lead the nation in preparing women for advanced study and leadership in
11 science, technology, education, public service, and the arts; and

12 WHEREAS, Spelman College enrolls approximately 2,500 students, offers 34 academic
13 majors and 39 minors, maintains an 11:1 student-faculty ratio, and reports that 86 percent of
14 full-time faculty hold doctoral degrees or the terminal degree in their field, underscoring the
15 College's commitment to rigorous academic instruction and mentorship; and

16 WHEREAS, Spelman College reports a 76 percent six-year graduation rate, significantly
17 exceeding the national average, and approximately one-third of Spelman students pursue
18 graduate or professional degrees, reflecting strong academic preparation and student success
19 outcomes; and

20 WHEREAS, Spelman College has produced a global network of more than 20,000 alumnae
21 worldwide, including leaders in government, education, business, healthcare, science, the
22 arts, and nonprofit and civic life, many of whom live and work throughout the state of
23 Georgia and contribute meaningfully to its workforce, civic institutions, and communities;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, Spelman College serves as a vital anchor institution within the Atlanta
26 University Center and the West End community, generating economic impact, and advancing
27 workforce development and community engagement initiatives across the state; and

28 WHEREAS, Spelman Day at the Georgia State Capitol provides an important opportunity
29 for students, alumnae, faculty, staff, and policymakers to engage in civic dialogue, highlight
30 the College's statewide and global impact, and reaffirm the importance of higher education
31 partnerships in advancing Georgia's economic vitality, educational access, and public good.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 recognize Spelman Day at the Georgia State Capitol and commend Spelman College for its
34 enduring legacy of academic excellence, leadership development, and service to the State of
35 Georgia, the nation, and the world.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
37 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the representatives
38 of Spelman College.