

## Senate Resolution 973

By: Senators Halpern of the 39th, Strickland of the 42nd, Jones of the 10th and Davenport of the 17th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Chairwoman Carlotta Harrell for her distinguished public service, visionary  
2 leadership, and unwavering commitment to the citizens of Henry County and the State of  
3 Georgia; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Carlotta Harrell was elected countywide in 2020 as Chairwoman of the Henry  
5 County Board of Commissioners and began her term on January 1, 2021, bringing to the  
6 office decades of experience in law enforcement, economic development, and public  
7 administration; and

8 WHEREAS, born in Georgia as the daughter of a pastor and civil rights freedom fighter, she  
9 was raised in a household rooted in faith and service, witnessing her parents advocate for  
10 equality alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Congressman John Lewis—an upbringing  
11 that shaped her lifelong dedication to justice, equity, and servant leadership; and

12 WHEREAS, an Atlanta native educated in the Atlanta Public School System, she earned  
13 degrees in Public Administration and Criminal Justice from Brenau University in  
14 Gainesville, Georgia, and went on to serve more than twenty years in law enforcement in the  
15 State of Georgia before transitioning into community and economic development; and

16 WHEREAS, she was appointed in 2012 to the Henry County Water Authority Board of  
17 Directors, which serves approximately 60,000 metered customers and manages a budget  
18 exceeding \$72 million, and she later served as Chief of Staff to the Henry County  
19 Commissioner for District V; and

20 WHEREAS, for twelve years she provided consulting and project management services to  
21 the Georgia Conference of African American Mayors, assisting municipalities in identifying  
22 more than \$300 million in infrastructure and economic development funding and  
23 strengthening public-private partnerships throughout the state; and

24 WHEREAS, as Managing Partner of The Harrell Group, a Women-Owned Small Business  
25 consulting firm, she has led strategic planning, organizational development, and operational  
26 improvement initiatives for municipal governments and private entities across Georgia; and

27 WHEREAS, as Chairwoman, she has been instrumental in advancing Henry County through  
28 bipartisan passage of its first-ever Transportation SPLOST expected to generate more than  
29 \$250 million for infrastructure improvements, the establishment of a Public Safety Real Time  
30 Crime Center, and the securing of \$32 million in Federal Emergency Rental Assistance  
31 Program funds; and

32 WHEREAS, she serves on the Atlanta Regional Commission Board in her capacity as  
33 Chairwoman, has held numerous state and local leadership roles including State President  
34 of the Georgia Federation of Democratic Women, State Public Policy Chair for the National  
35 Council of Negro Women, Vice Chair of the Henry County SPLOST Committee, and  
36 Executive Committee Member of the Georgia Democratic Party, and remains active in faith  
37 and community service as a Deacon of Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church; and

38 WHEREAS, her leadership has been recognized statewide through honors including  
39 Engineering Georgia's Top 100 Influential Women in Georgia, Atlanta Business League's  
40 Top 100 Women of Influence, Southern Crescent Women in Business' Top 50 Women of  
41 Influence, and the Georgia Association of Black County Officials' Chairwoman of the Year.

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
43 honor and commend Chairwoman Carlotta Harrell for her outstanding leadership,  
44 distinguished career, and transformative impact on Henry County and the State of Georgia.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
46 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Chairwoman  
47 Carlotta Harrell.