

Senate Resolution 340

By: Senators Burns of the 23rd, Harbin of the 16th, Payne of the 54th, Harrell of the 40th, Hickman of the 4th and others

### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Georgia State University; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Georgia State University, founded in 1913, is a premier urban research  
3 university focused on research, service, and advanced educational opportunities for more  
4 than 52,000 students; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Georgia State University is an enterprising public research university in  
6 downtown Atlanta with satellite campuses in DeKalb, Fulton, and Newton counties; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Georgia State University has been ranked the nation's number one public  
8 university for excellence in undergraduate teaching by *U.S. News and World Report* for five  
9 consecutive years; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Georgia State University, a national leader in graduating students from widely  
11 diverse backgrounds, has been named among the top five "Most Innovative" universities in  
12 the country by *U.S. News and World Report* for a decade and counting; and

13 WHEREAS, Georgia State University is recognized as a national leader in helping students  
14 reach their academic goals and, since 2003, has raised its six-year graduation rate by 74  
15 percent; and

16 WHEREAS, Georgia State University has received an \$80 million gift from the Robert W.  
17 Woodruff Foundation, the largest gift in university history, to embark on an ambitious  
18 campus transformation to integrate its downtown footprint and create vibrant,  
19 people-centered spaces for students and the city; and

20 WHEREAS, Georgia State University continues its important role of producing new  
21 knowledge that transforms lives and communities thanks to a research portfolio that has  
22 invested more than \$1.2 billion in research expenditures over the past six years; and

23 WHEREAS, Georgia State University has broken ground on a new, nine-story, \$100 million  
24 Research Tower on its Atlanta Campus that will expand its capacity for discovery and  
25 learning; and

26 WHEREAS, Georgia State University's National Institute for Student Success (NISS)  
27 received a \$2 million grant from the Ascendium Education Group that will enable the  
28 institute to provide its services to six Georgia colleges and universities, helping them identify  
29 and resolve institutional barriers to college completion; and

30 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education (DOE) has awarded the National  
31 Institute for Student Success (NISS) its first-ever Trailblazer Award, recognizing its success  
32 in increasing graduation rates through data-driven, evidence-based interventions and its  
33 impact on the field of student success nationally; and

34 WHEREAS, more than 200 Georgia State University student-athletes achieved Sun Belt  
35 Conference academic honors for the 2023-24 academic year, including 130 student-athletes  
36 who earned a place on the Commissioner's List with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher;  
37 and

38 WHEREAS, Georgia State University's student-athletes collectively finished the year with  
39 a 3.39 grade point average, higher than the overall Sun Belt GPA; and

40 WHEREAS, Georgia State University continues its important role in addressing critical  
41 quality-of-life issues through a highly active research community dedicated to uncovering  
42 new knowledge in cancer, heart disease, mental health, public health, and more, earning  
43 nearly \$186 million in research funding in Fiscal Year 2024; and

44 WHEREAS, Georgia State University has a \$3.2 billion economic impact on metro Atlanta  
45 each year; and

46 WHEREAS, Georgia State University has adopted a ten-year strategic plan focused on four  
47 initiatives: Student Success 2.0; Identity, Placemaking and Belonging; Innovating Research,  
48 Scholarship and Creative Activity; and Beyond College to Career; and

49 WHEREAS, nearly two dozen initiatives have been launched under the BluePrint to 2033  
50 strategic plan and are being implemented under each pillar.

51 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
52 recognize and commend Georgia State University for its all-around success in 2024 and the  
53 pride and prestige it brought to the students, staff, and alumni of Georgia State University.

54 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
55 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Georgia State  
56 University.