

Senate Resolution 464

By: Senators Mallow of the 2nd, Anderson of the 24th, Burns of the 23rd, Jones II of the 22nd, Wicks of the 34th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dr. Jermaine Whirl, the incoming President of Savannah State
2 University; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Jermaine Whirl has long been recognized by the citizens of this state for the
4 vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the welfare
5 of the citizens of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Whirl, an Aspen Fellow, is a nationally sought-after, award-winning
7 authority in workforce and higher education; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Whirl has demonstrated his exceptional leadership talents as the President
9 of Augusta Technical College, as well as in various positions at Greenville Technical
10 College, Gwinnett Technical College, Savannah Technical College, East Georgia State
11 College, and Georgia Southern University; and

12 WHEREAS, beginning April 1, 2025, Dr. Whirl will serve as the President of Savannah State
13 University; and

14 WHEREAS, during his remarkable tenure at Augusta Technical College, Dr. Whirl
15 completed a full rebrand of the institution, implemented a new five-year strategic plan,
16 established five new academic schools, and was instrumental in the creation of innovative
17 and progressive programs; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Whirl established Accelerate Augusta, a \$2.3 million incubator-
19 microenterprise center in partnership with the Downtown Development Authority of
20 Augusta; and

21 WHEREAS, he is also the only college president in the United States selected to serve a
22 three-year term on the United States Inaugural 21st Century Energy Workforce Advisory
23 Board that provides guidance to the Secretary of Energy; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Whirl's commitment to excellence has been recognized by the numerous
25 awards he has received, including the Paragon Award for new presidents from Phi Theta
26 Kappa, the Leadership Award from the Greater Augusta Black Chamber of Commerce, as
27 a 2024 Georgia Trend 40 Under 40 honoree, and as a 2025 Georgia Trend Notable Georgian
28 honoree; and

29 WHEREAS, he is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for
30 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; and

31 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
32 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 recognize and commend Dr. Jermaine Whirl, congratulate him upon becoming the President

35 of Savannah State University, and extend their most sincere best wishes for his continued
36 success.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
38 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dr. Jermaine
39 Whirl.