

Senate Resolution 791

By: Senators James of the 28th, Rhett of the 33rd, Wicks of the 34th, Anderson of the 43rd,
Howard of the 35th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 16, 2026, as Morris Brown College Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, eighteen years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation
4 Proclamation, the ministers of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of the State of
5 Georgia, fully realizing the necessity of an institution for the preparation of young men and
6 women for every department of Christian work and also cognizant of the importance of an
7 industrial training school for both genders, resolved upon the establishment of a school to be
8 known as Morris Brown College; and

9 WHEREAS, Morris Brown College of the AME Church was granted a charter from the State
10 of Georgia in May, 1885, becoming the first institution in the state solely under African
11 American patronage; and

12 WHEREAS, the school first opened in October of 1885, with Mrs. Mary McCree serving as
13 principal; in 1890, the first graduating class from Morris Brown College received their
14 diplomas; and

15 WHEREAS, for more than 130 years, Morris Brown College has received and nurtured
16 students from around the world; the institution's deep seated commitment to a profound
17 purpose, diligence of effort, hard work, perseverance, and belief and trust in God provides
18 access to opportunity for educational development in a nurturing environment.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
20 recognize March 16, 2026, as Morris Brown College Day at the state capitol.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
22 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Morris Brown
23 College.