

Senate Resolution 878

By: Senators Orrock of the 36th, Wicks of the 34th, James of the 28th, Mangham of the 55th, Jackson of the 41st and others

### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and legacy of Hajja Ayisha Jeffries Cissé; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Hajja Ayisha Jeffries Cissé served with distinction as Vice President of Global  
3 Affairs and Senior Policy Advisor to the President of the African American Islamic Institute  
4 (AAIL) under the leadership of the Honorable Shaykh Imam Tidjane Aliou Cissé and  
5 previously alongside its Founder, the Honorable Shaykh Imam Hassan Aliou Cissé; and
- 6 WHEREAS, through her visionary leadership at AAIL, whose mission is to lead sustainable  
7 development promoting education, healthcare, the empowerment of women and children,  
8 poverty alleviation, and peace, she managed a portfolio of 35 global partnerships advancing  
9 humanitarian initiatives across Africa, the United States, and Europe; and
- 10 WHEREAS, her efforts facilitated historic collaborations, including partnership with  
11 AmeriCares resulting in the distribution of more than \$1 billion in medicine and medical  
12 supplies throughout Africa via the Institute's Shifa Al Asqam Social Medical Center, funding  
13 support for the Fayda Radio Station in Medina Baye totaling \$600,000, and a \$250,000  
14 Mobile Clinic Public Health initiative in collaboration with the United States Embassy in  
15 Senegal and United States Doctors for Africa titled "Building Bridges: Making the Possible  
16 from the Impossible"; and

17 WHEREAS, Hajja Ayisha Jeffries Cissé faithfully represented AAI as its principal liaison  
18 to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, elevating the organization's global  
19 advocacy and strengthening international partnerships for sustainable development; and

20 WHEREAS, a native of Jersey City, New Jersey, she later made Atlanta, Georgia, her home,  
21 serving in the administration of the late Mayor Maynard Jackson as Budget Policy Analyst  
22 and Legislative Review/Governmental Affairs Liaison, contributing her expertise to public  
23 policy and municipal governance; and

24 WHEREAS, she was a proud graduate of North Carolina A&T State University, earning a  
25 degree in economics, and further distinguished herself by obtaining a Master of Arts from  
26 the Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy at The New  
27 School; and

28 WHEREAS, she was recently named Chief Strategy Officer of Darultul Kitabi wal Hikmati,  
29 an international non-governmental organization chaired by Imam Shaykh Ahmad Tijani,  
30 Chief Imam of the Grand Mosque of Medina Baye, where she was poised to expand her  
31 strategic leadership in service to global communities; and

32 WHEREAS, within her Atlanta community, she was a devoted civic leader, serving as  
33 Co-Chair of the Congressman John Lewis Commemorative Plaza and the John Lewis Task  
34 Force, consultant to Nasrul ILM America and Camp Butterfly Girls, charter member of the  
35 ASMA Society, Global Muslim Women's Fund, The Shura Council, and the Sufi Society;  
36 and

37 WHEREAS, she was a steadfast supporter of the High Museum of Art, the Dance Theatre  
38 of Harlem, and AID Atlanta, reflecting her lifelong dedication to culture, the arts, and public  
39 health advocacy; and

40 WHEREAS, throughout her distinguished career, she received numerous honors and awards  
41 and served as a mentor to emerging leaders in political activism, inspiring countless  
42 individuals through her example of faith-driven service, intellectual excellence, and  
43 compassionate leadership; and

44 WHEREAS, her life's work strengthened international partnerships, uplifted vulnerable  
45 communities, empowered women and youth, and advanced peace and sustainable  
46 development across continents.

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
48 honor the life and legacy of Hajja Ayisha Jeffries Cissé, celebrate her extraordinary  
49 contributions to global humanitarian efforts and civic leadership, and extend their deepest  
50 sympathy to her family, friends, colleagues, and all who were blessed to know her.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
52 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the family of Hajja  
53 Ayisha Jeffries Cissé.