

Senate Resolution 900

By: Senators Anderson of the 43rd, Davenport of the 17th, Wicks of the 34th, Jones II of the 22nd, Parent of the 44th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Phenola Culbreath; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Phenola Culbreath, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, was born on September 24,
3 1946, at Grady Hospital—a proud product of the historic Old Fourth Ward, she represents
4 a generation shaped by the rich cultural and civic legacy of the City of Atlanta; and

5 WHEREAS, she received her early education in the Atlanta Public Schools System,
6 attending Anderson Park Elementary School and Henry McNeal Turner High School, and
7 she pursued higher education at Clark College, now Clark Atlanta University; and

8 WHEREAS, although she entered the workforce at a time of limited opportunities for
9 African Americans, she became among the first Black employees hired by Southern Bell
10 Telephone and Telegraph Company; and

11 WHEREAS, she later achieved a historic milestone when she was hired by Delta Air Lines
12 as one of the company's first Black stewardesses, standing as the sole Black member in her
13 class of 50 flight attendants, with her first base assignment in Memphis, Tennessee; and

14 WHEREAS, during her tenure with Delta Air Lines, she had the opportunity to meet
15 prominent civil rights leader and NAACP President Benjamin Hooks; and

16 WHEREAS, Phenola Culbreath dedicated 36 years of exemplary service to Delta Air Lines,
17 building a distinguished career defined by perseverance, professionalism, and
18 barrier-breaking achievement before retiring in 2001; and

19 WHEREAS, this distinguished gentlewoman has given inspiration to many through her high
20 ideals, morals, and deep concern for her fellow citizens, and she possesses the vast wisdom
21 which only comes through experience and the strength of character which is achieved
22 through overcoming the many challenges of life; and

23 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
24 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately honored.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
26 recognize and commend Phenola Culbreath for her many magnificent achievements and
27 decades of groundbreaking career service as well as extend the most sincere best wishes for
28 continued health and happiness.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
30 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Phenola Culbreath.