

Senate Resolution 458

By: Senator Butler of the 55th

### A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring heroine Joyce Harvin-Banks in service to her country as a member of the United  
2 States armed forces; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Joyce Harvin-Banks was trained as a communications specialist and served 23  
4 years in the United States Army, both Active and Reserve; and

5 WHEREAS, her numerous military occupational specialties included field artillery target  
6 acquisition specialist and radio teletype operator, and later as a sergeant, she served as a  
7 dental assistant specialist during Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom; and

8 WHEREAS, she also served 20 years with the New York City Police Department as a police  
9 officer for six years and then as a detective, working with women experiencing domestic  
10 violence and with at-risk juveniles until she retired in April, 2012; and

11 WHEREAS, those who give positive definition to the profile and disposition of the American  
12 armed forces profoundly strengthen our shared commitment to the exercise of freedom; and

13 WHEREAS, attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions,  
14 this legislative body is justly proud to honor all women who served their country as members  
15 of the United States armed forces; and

16 WHEREAS, sixty-one years ago, on June 12, 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed into  
17 law the Women's Armed Services Act of 1948 (P.L. 625, 80th Congress); this law ensured  
18 that women would have a permanent place in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, the late Senator Margaret Chase Smith from Maine authored the legislation that  
21 President Truman signed; the act remains the most significant legislation pertaining to

22 women's military service and is the cornerstone for policies and regulations affecting women;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, for decades, women veterans served their country with honor and valor and  
25 excelled in all levels of the military through their demonstrated military capabilities; their  
26 distinguished role in the defense of our country is recognized and commended; and

27 WHEREAS, women from Georgia who have served in the armed forces of the United States  
28 have made countless contributions and tremendous sacrifices during times of war; and

29 WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the contributions of women veterans and educate  
30 the people of Georgia concerning the role of women during wartime since this nation was  
31 founded; and

32 WHEREAS, women veterans demonstrate their professionalism, dedication, and skills, as  
33 well as their patriotism and love for their country and the liberties, freedoms, and rights for  
34 which it stands; and

35 WHEREAS, all Americans owe a debt of gratitude to women veterans such as Joyce  
36 Harvin-Banks, wife and mother of three, who risk their lives in the defense of freedom; and

37 WHEREAS, it is the custom of this legislative body to pay tribute to the bravery, patriotism,  
38 and sacrifice made by women veterans, both those still living and those who have died in  
39 service to our great country.

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that members of this body  
41 pause in its deliberations to honor heroine Joyce Harvin-Banks and all women who served  
42 their country as members of the United States armed forces.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
44 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Joyce  
45 Harvin-Banks.