

## Senate Resolution 537

By: Senators Butler of the 55th, Halpern of the 39th, Parent of the 42nd, Anderson of the 43rd, Harrell of the 40th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and celebrating Perimeter College at Georgia State University on the grand  
2 occasion of its 60th anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Perimeter College at Georgia State University, which opened its doors to 763  
4 students on its Clarkston Campus in 1964, was then known as DeKalb College and governed  
5 by the local board of education; and

6 WHEREAS, Perimeter College held its first commencement in 1966; and

7 WHEREAS, Perimeter College expanded its reach by opening a second campus in Decatur  
8 in 1972; and

9 WHEREAS, the college opened additional locations over the span of three decades,  
10 including at Dunwoody (1979), Alpharetta (2000), and Newton (2007); and

11 WHEREAS, in 1986, Perimeter College joined the University System of Georgia as its 34th  
12 institution; and

13 WHEREAS, during its decades-long history, the community has known the college under  
14 various names including DeKalb College, DeKalb Community College, and Georgia  
15 Perimeter College; and

16 WHEREAS, Perimeter College is recognized as a powerhouse among the country's two-year  
17 colleges, being the first public two-year college in Georgia; and

18 WHEREAS, Perimeter College helped pioneer distance learning by offering its first online  
19 classes in 1998 and now boasts the largest online education program within the University  
20 System of Georgia for associate-degree institutions; and

21 WHEREAS, Perimeter built a solid reputation as a community college in part by offering  
22 flagship programs such as its annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, keynoted by  
23 prominent celebrities and anchored by student-led service learning projects; and

24 WHEREAS, in 2010, the college received distinction as a President's Higher Education  
25 Community Service Honor Roll recipient, the highest federal recognition a college or  
26 university can receive for its commitment to community service; and

27 WHEREAS, Perimeter College has helped foster the success of countless students over the  
28 years with, among other accomplishments, 27 students awarded the Jack Kent Cooke Award,  
29 one of the nation's most prestigious scholarships for two-year undergraduate students; and

30 WHEREAS, the University System of Georgia Board of Regents approved the consolidation  
31 of Perimeter College with Georgia State University in 2016, making it the largest university  
32 in the state and among the largest in the nation; and

33 WHEREAS, under the university's nationally recognized student success initiatives,  
34 graduation rates at Perimeter more than tripled; and

35 WHEREAS, Perimeter students, regardless of race, ethnicity, or income, now graduate at  
36 similar rates thanks to these noted student success initiatives; and

37 WHEREAS, the college employs highly-talented faculty and staff who contribute to the  
38 success of students through innovative classroom and experiential learning activities; and

39 WHEREAS, over the past 60 years, the college has served as a gateway to higher education,  
40 awarding an associate degree to more than 63,000 graduates who go on to provide  
41 outstanding value to their respective workplaces and communities; and

42 WHEREAS, it is abundantly appropriate that this outstanding institution be honored during  
43 this special time.

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
45 recognize and celebrate Perimeter College at Georgia State University upon the milestone  
46 occasion of its 60th anniversary and extend sincere best wishes for continued success.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
48 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Perimeter College  
49 at Georgia State University.