

## Senate Resolution 626

By: Senators Halpern of the 39th, Parent of the 42nd, Seay of the 34th, Harbison of the 15th, Mallow of the 2nd and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Spike Lee and recognizing February 20, 2024, as Spike Lee Day; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Spike Lee, born Shelton Jackson Lee on March 20, 1957, in Atlanta, Georgia,  
4 has made extraordinary contributions to the worlds of cinema, education, and social justice;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Spike Lee's early roots in Atlanta and his formative years spent in Brooklyn,  
7 New York, have shaped his identity as a filmmaker, educator, and advocate for social  
8 change; and

9 WHEREAS, Spike Lee's cinematic journey began with amateur films at the age of 20,  
10 leading to a Student Academy Award for his graduate thesis film and subsequently his  
11 prolific career as a director, producer, writer, and actor; and

12 WHEREAS, Spike Lee's commitment to exploring provocative topics such as race, politics,  
13 and violence has sparked critical conversations and raised awareness on pressing social  
14 issues; and

15 WHEREAS, Spike Lee's dedication to education and his ties to Historically Black Colleges  
16 and Universities (HBCUs) reflect his belief in the power of access, exposure, and  
17 opportunity; and

18 WHEREAS, Spike Lee's partnership with The Gersh Agency to establish the Spike Fellows  
19 Program, benefitting students at the Atlanta University Center Consortium (AUCC),  
20 including Morehouse College, Spelman College, and Clark Atlanta University, demonstrates  
21 his commitment to empowering the next generation of Black and Brown creatives; and

22 WHEREAS, Spike Lee's advocacy for diversity, equity, and inclusion in the film industry  
23 and beyond has paved the way for underrepresented voices to be heard and celebrated; and

24 WHEREAS, Spike Lee's impact extends beyond the boundaries of cinema, encompassing  
25 documentaries, commercials, and initiatives that amplify marginalized voices and champion  
26 social justice causes.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
28 honor Spike Lee for his unwavering commitment to Georgia, HBCUs, and the next  
29 generation of storytellers and express gratitude for his enduring legacy of creativity, courage,  
30 and compassion.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body recognize February 20, 2024,  
32 as Spike Lee Day in commemoration of his invaluable contributions to the arts, education,  
33 and social activism.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
35 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Spike Lee.