

Senate Resolution 799

By: Senators Jones of the 10th, Lucas of the 26th, Seay of the 34th, Orrock of the 36th, Rhett of the 33rd and others

### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Basil Barrington Watson; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Basil Barrington Watson believes that art is "The harmonious expression of  
3 one's vision of life"; and
- 4 WHEREAS, for more than 45 years, he has been translating life's most important attributes,  
5 positive emotions and attitudes, the spirit of freedom and spontaneity, strength, beauty,  
6 energy, and vigor, into finely crafted works of art; and
- 7 WHEREAS, he was born in Kingston, Jamaica, the son of internationally renowned painter  
8 Barrington Watson, and studied at the Jamaica School of Art; and
- 9 WHEREAS, he then went on to establish a successful career as Jamaica's leading sculptor,  
10 with the most notable of his achievements on the island being monumental works on the  
11 campuses of the three primary universities, as well as signature works at the two major  
12 stadia; and
- 13 WHEREAS, in 2016, the Government of Jamaica awarded him the Order of Distinction  
14 (Commander) in recognition of his contributions in the field of art; and

15 WHEREAS, after emigrating to the United States in 2002, he established his home and  
16 studio in Lawrenceville, Georgia; and

17 WHEREAS, he has completed several major commissions for various governments and  
18 organizations around the world, including the National Windrush Monument for the  
19 Government of the United Kingdom; Martin Luther King, Jr., for the City of Atlanta; and  
20 Usain Bolt for the Government of Jamaica; and

21 WHEREAS, he was most recently awarded the commission to celebrate the late John Lewis  
22 with a sculpture to be erected outside the Historic Decatur Court House; and

23 WHEREAS, he is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for  
24 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example he makes of his life, he  
25 makes this world a better place in which to live; and

26 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
27 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
29 recognize and commend Basil Barrington Watson and thank him for his many contributions  
30 to the art world.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
32 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Basil Barrington  
33 Watson.