

Senate Resolution 814

By: Senators Davenport of the 44th, Tate of the 38th, James of the 35th, Seay of the 34th,
Butler of the 55th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell on her outstanding service at
2 Spelman College; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell has long been recognized by the citizens of this
4 state for the vital role that she has played in leadership and her deep personal commitment
5 to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, in March of 2015, Dr. Campbell was named Spelman's tenth president; and

7 WHEREAS, education is of the most vital importance to the members of the Georgia
8 General Assembly; and

9 WHEREAS, she has served in numerous other positions during her professional career,
10 including as a museum director; and

11 WHEREAS, she served as commissioner of cultural affairs for New York City under two
12 mayors and from there entered the world of academia as dean of New York University's
13 renowned Tisch School of the Arts; and

14 WHEREAS, in 2009, President Barack Obama appointed her vice chair of the President's
15 Committee on the Arts and Humanities; and

16 WHEREAS, she is currently a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and
17 serves as a trustee of the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, the J. Paul Getty Trust, and the
18 Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and as a director of Unity Technologies; and

19 WHEREAS, viewing Spelman as a "necessity" to "reach an ideal of equality," Dr. Campbell
20 launched Imagine. Invent. Ascend, a bold new strategic vision for the college; and

21 WHEREAS, her focus has been on ensuring that every Spelman student graduates with a
22 competitive edge; expanding Spelman's strategic partnerships; deepening its excellence in
23 STEM; wedding that strength to art, innovation, and technology; and expanding signature
24 academic programs that leverage Spelman's scholarly and creative excellence; and

25 WHEREAS, to support this vision, under Dr. Campbell's leadership, the college has raised
26 over 122 percent of its \$250 million capital campaign goal in four years, the largest
27 comprehensive campaign in the history of Spelman; and

28 WHEREAS, she is the author of the award-winning book *An American Odyssey: the Life and*
29 *Work of Romare Bearden* and frequently speaks on issues of higher education and African
30 American art and culture; and

31 WHEREAS, she is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for
32 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; and

33 WHEREAS, Dr. Campbell has served with honor and distinction as the president of Spelman
34 College, and her vision and unyielding commitment to education and the arts will be sorely
35 missed upon the occasion of her retirement; and

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

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
39 recognize and commend Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell for her efficient, effective, unselfish,
40 and dedicated commitment to her field and congratulate her upon the grand occasion of her
41 retirement and extend the most sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
43 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dr. Mary Schmidt
44 Campbell.