

Senate Resolution 923

By: Senator Harbison of the 15th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Sergeant Major Robert E. Spencer; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, our nation's security continues to rely on patriotic men and women who put  
3 their personal lives on hold in order to place themselves in harm's way to protect the  
4 freedoms that all United States citizens cherish; and

5 WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Spencer valiantly and courageously served as a guardian of this  
6 nation's freedom and liberty with the United States Army for more than 26 years and retired  
7 from service in July 1985; and

8 WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished career, Sergeant Major Spencer earned the distinct  
9 honor of being the first sergeant major of color and the first African American selected to  
10 hold that position; and

11 WHEREAS, on July 27, 2011, he was inducted into the United States Army Ranger Hall of  
12 Fame as a result of his deep personal commitment to protecting democracy and his  
13 willingness to sacrifice his own personal safety and comfort to ensure the well-being of  
14 others; and

15 WHEREAS, Sergeant Major Spencer is a highly decorated veteran and a recipient of  
16 numerous awards and decorations, which include the coveted Combat and Expert  
17 Infantryman's Badges, the Master Parachutist Badge, the Pathfinder Badge, and the Ranger  
18 Tab; and

19 WHEREAS, only those with great strength, discipline, and a firm resolve achieve positions  
20 of such status, and Sergeant Major Spencer has brought great credit to himself, his family,  
21 this state, and this nation through his outstanding performance and dedication; and

22 WHEREAS, his selfless and heroic actions stand as a shining tribute to the strength of human  
23 spirit and willpower, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding  
24 accomplishments of this remarkable and distinguished American be appropriately  
25 recognized.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
27 recognize and commend Sergeant Major Robert E. Spencer for his effective, unselfish, and  
28 dedicated public service to the State of Georgia and the nation and extend the most sincere  
29 best wishes for continued health and happiness.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
31 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Sergeant Major  
32 Robert E. Spencer.