

House Resolution 312

By: Representatives Scott of the 76th, Frazier of the 126th, Jones of the 53rd, Beasley-Teague of the 65th, and Gilligan of the 24th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Jacqueline Michelle Watson and recognizing February 21, 2017, as Female
2 Veteran's Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, a United States Army veteran and community leader, Jacqueline Michelle
4 Watson was born in Kingston, Jamaica, and migrated to Bronx, New York, in 1974 as a
5 child; after graduating from Columbus High School in 1982, she joined the United States
6 Army, where she held various positions including Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear
7 Explosive Ordinance Specialist, Platoon Sergeant, First Sergeant, instructor, food service
8 specialist, emergency response coordinator, counselor, trainer, reconnaissance specialist,
9 decontamination specialist, aerial port of debarkation/embarkation noncommissioned officer
10 in charge, reenlistment noncommissioned officer, and numerous other duties; and

11 WHEREAS, after honorably serving slightly more than 20 years, this combat veteran retired
12 in 2002 at Fort McPherson, Georgia, as a Sergeant First Class and created Caring for Our
13 Veterans, Inc., in 2016; she is also a board member and events coordinator of the Veterans
14 Ministry at Shiloh Baptist Church in McDonough, Georgia; and

15 WHEREAS, she spearheaded the Caribbean Association of Georgia, Inc., in 2008 to provide
16 services such as feeding the homeless, collecting and distributing books to underprivileged
17 children, and distributing stuffed animals to orphans as well as hospitalized and homeless
18 children from the Caribbean and Atlanta; and

19 WHEREAS, in 2013, this trailblazer co-founded yet another vital nonprofit organization, the
20 Caribbean American Chamber of Georgia, Inc., where she is currently the President and
21 CEO; she also has a Real Estate Associate degree, an MBA in Human Resources, and dual
22 Bachelor of Art degrees in Business Management and Human Resources from Saint Leo
23 University; and

24 WHEREAS, she has volunteered with numerous organizations such as Meals on Wheels,
25 SCLC W.O.M.E.N, Coalition for the Peoples Agenda, Friends of Clayton Transit, Habitat
26 for Humanity, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Hands on Atlanta, United Service Organization,
27 Army Community Services, Hosea Feed the Homeless/Hungry, Association of the United
28 States Army, and the American Red Cross; and she believes that it is vital that we leave a
29 positive impact on the world for future generations; and

30 WHEREAS, her selfless and heroic actions stand as a shining tribute to the strength of
31 human spirit and willpower, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding
32 accomplishments of this remarkable and distinguished American be recognized
33 appropriately.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
35 the members of this body commend Jacqueline Michelle Watson on her outstanding
36 achievements and recognize February 21, 2017, as Female Veteran's Day at the state capitol.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
38 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
39 Jacqueline Michelle Watson.