

Senate Resolution 170

By: Senator Harbison of the 15th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Dr. Quesha Starks; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Quesha Starks, principal at Booker T. Washington Magnet High School,
3 was one of 227 principals across the United States selected to attend "Closing the Excellence
4 Gap: Nurturing Talent of High-Achieving, Low-Income Students," which is sponsored by
5 the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Starks has been the principal at Booker T. Washington Magnet High School
7 for 11 years, and before that she was an administrator at Brewbaker Technology Magnet
8 High School, Loveless Academic Magnet Program, and Walter T. McKee Junior High
9 School; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Starks is a National Board Certified Teacher who specializes in
11 Adolescence and Young Adulthood English and Language Arts; and

12 WHEREAS, she is an accomplished musician who studied organ with German composer Dr.
13 Harald Rohlig and performed as a guest pianist and flutist in "Sketches in Jazz," sponsored
14 by the Alabama Jazz Federation; and

15 WHEREAS, her involvement in the performing arts has allowed her to work with youth
16 programs across the state as a music workshop clinician, Junior Miss pageant judge, and
17 motivational speaker; and

18 WHEREAS, in 2009, Dr. Starks organized the Wilbur Terrell Jazz Ensemble to inspire
19 young musicians to celebrate the many outstanding contributions jazz artists have made to
20 this state; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Starks has conducted extensive research on Multiple Intelligences Theory
22 and Brain Research and has presented workshops focusing on arts integration across
23 curriculum; and

24 WHEREAS, she has been recognized as a Disney American Teacher Award nominee, WSFA
25 Class Act Award Teacher, Sam Walton Foundation Teacher of the Year, Who's Who Among
26 American Teachers, Congressional Youth Leadership Advisor, and Montgomery County's
27 Outstanding Principal of the Year; and

28 WHEREAS, Dr. Starks was featured in *Future Montgomery Magazine* as one of the city's
29 most promising young leaders in 2008; and

30 WHEREAS, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *Business Week*, *Google, Inc.*, and the
31 *Washington Post* have recognized Booker T. Washington Magnet High School as one of
32 America's best high schools during Dr. Starks' tenure as principal; and

33 WHEREAS, Dr. Quesha Starks is an intelligent and dedicated educator who seeks to reach
34 all of her students regardless of class, race, or sex, and this outstanding principal is deserving
35 of the honor of this body.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
37 commend Dr. Quesha Starks for her vast accomplishments and success and extend their most
38 sincere best wishes for her continued health and happiness.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
40 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Dr. Quesha Starks.