

Senate Resolution 672

By: Senators Anderson of the 43rd, Butler of the 55th, Davenport of the 44th, Jones II of the 22nd, Harbison of the 15th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Dr. M. Brian Blake; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, as the eighth President of Georgia State University, Dr. M. Brian Blake leads
3 the State of Georgia's largest university spanning six campuses and a community of nearly
4 53,000 students and 8,000 faculty and staff; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Georgia State is the most ethnically and socioeconomically diverse Research-1
6 institution in the nation; and
- 7 WHEREAS, with more than 23,000 African-American students, the university graduates
8 more African-American students than any other nonprofit institution in the nation, and Dr.
9 Blake is the first Black president of the university; and
- 10 WHEREAS, during his tenure, Georgia State University has set several new milestones: the
11 university received the largest number of applications ever for admission to its Fall 2023
12 entering class; the research enterprise exceeded \$200 million in sponsor awards; and more
13 than \$55 million in government support was acquired for a new 120,000 square foot
14 Research Tower that will break ground in 2024 and open in 2026; and

15 WHEREAS, before coming to Georgia State University, he had over 22 years of faculty and
16 administrative experience across five comprehensive research universities including Provost
17 at George Washington University and Drexel University, dean at the University of Miami,
18 and associate dean for research at the University of Notre Dame; and

19 WHEREAS, he has a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering from Georgia Institute of
20 Technology, a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from Mercer University, and a
21 Ph.D. in Software Engineering from George Mason University; and

22 WHEREAS, he serves on the Board of Directors for Grady Memorial Hospital Corporation,
23 Metro-Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Junior Achievement of Georgia, and the Atlanta
24 Convention & Visitors Bureau and has been included on the 2022 and 2023 lists of the
25 Georgia 500 – The State's Most Influential Leaders as well as being recognized as a 2023
26 Most Admired CEO; and

27 WHEREAS, he grew up in Savannah, Georgia, and he and his wife, Bridget, have two sons,
28 Brendan and Bryce; and

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

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 recognize and commend Dr. M. Brian Blake and thank him for his efficient, effective,
33 unselfish, and dedicated public service to the State of Georgia and extend the most sincere
34 best wishes for continued health and happiness.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dr. M. Brian
37 Blake.