

## Senate Resolution 816

By: Senators Davenport of the 44th, Anderson of the 43rd, Sims of the 12th, Seay of the 34th, James of the 35th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 20, 2024, as Spelman College Day at the state capitol; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Spelman College was founded in 1881 as the Atlanta Baptist Female Seminary,  
4 which became Spelman College in 1924; it is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of  
5 the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and is also a member of the Atlanta  
6 University Center Consortium; and

7 WHEREAS, Spelman College has long been recognized as the leading educator of women  
8 of African descent, and it is now named among the top 100 liberal arts colleges in the nation  
9 and is one of the most selective women's colleges in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, the Spelman student body is composed of more than 2,350 students from 44  
11 states and six foreign countries. Spelman empowers women to engage the many cultures of  
12 the world and inspires a commitment to positive social change through service. Spelman is  
13 dedicated to academic excellence in the liberal arts and sciences as well as the intellectual,  
14 creative, ethical, and leadership development of its students; and

15 WHEREAS, Spelman College is the No. 1 producer of Black women who earn PhDs in  
16 STEM fields, and the college's recognition among liberal arts colleges by *U.S. News and*  
17 *World Report* ranks Spelman the No. 1 HBCU; No. 2 Top Performer in Social Mobility; No.  
18 11 Best Learning Environment; No. 15 Most Innovative School; No. 19 Best Undergraduate  
19 Liberal Arts Teaching Program; and No. 39 Liberal Arts College; and

20 WHEREAS, for more than 15 consecutive years, Spelman has continued to rise in the  
21 rankings as one of the nation's top colleges by *U.S. News & World Report*, and it holds  
22 recognition in rankings and awards by *Money Magazine*; *The Fiske Guide to Colleges*; *Wall*  
23 *Street Journal/Times Higher Education*; *Essence Magazine*; *College Magazine*; Teach for  
24 America Corps; and the Institute of International Education; and

25 WHEREAS, the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College Inc. Georgia Chapters  
26 (Atlanta, Albany, Athens, Augusta, Columbus, Decatur, Savannah, and West Georgia) will  
27 Convene for the annual Spelman College Day at the state capitol on March 20, 2024; and

28 WHEREAS, Spelman College Day at the state capitol serves as an opportunity to interact  
29 with our state legislators and advocate for legislation that impacts women, children, our  
30 institution, and marginalized communities by informing and enlightening the Spelman  
31 College community - women who make a choice to change the world, and the Georgia  
32 community as a whole.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
34 commend Spelman College; President Dr. Helene D. Gayle; and the college faculty, students,  
35 staff, alumnae, and friends of Spelman College for their many years of dedicated service to  
36 excellence in education as well as recognize March 20, 2024, as Spelman College Day at the  
37 state capitol.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
39 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to The National  
40 Alumnae Association of Spelman College.