

House Resolution 1122

By: Representatives Lucas of the 139th, Coleman of the 144th, Randall of the 138th, Channell of the 116th, Cole of the 125th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Dr. R. Kirby Godsey, President and CEO of Mercer University, and inviting
2 him to appear before the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, since 1979, Dr. R. Kirby Godsey has served as the 17th president of Mercer
4 University, making him the longest serving president in Mercer's history; and

5 WHEREAS, during Dr. Godsey's tenure, Mercer University has grown and thrived,
6 becoming one of the most comprehensive universities in the United States, with ten schools
7 and colleges; and

8 WHEREAS, among the countless major developments Dr. Godsey has overseen are the 1982
9 opening of Mercer's School of Medicine, the 1985 opening of the School of Engineering, the
10 establishment of regional academic centers in Douglas and Henry counties and the City of
11 Eastman, and the founding of the Mercer University Press in 1979; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Godsey's commitment to excellence has never ended at the boundaries of
13 the campus; he is one of the founders and current chairman of New Town Macon, an
14 organization that has taken on the revitalization of the downtown Macon area; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Godsey's tireless dedication to higher education and his community has
16 earned him numerous accolades, including being named the 2002 Southeast's CEO of the
17 Year by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, the 2003 Citizen of the
18 Year by the Macon Chamber of Commerce, and one of the top 100 most influential
19 Georgians by *Georgia Trend* magazine; and

20 WHEREAS, for several years, Dr. Godsey has led Mercer University with determination and
21 vision, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that this body appropriately recognize his many
22 contributions to higher education in Georgia.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 the members of this body join in commending Dr. R. Kirby Godsey for his outstanding
3 service to Mercer University and Georgia.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dr. R. Kirby Godsey is invited to the House of
5 Representatives for purposes of being recognized by the House and receiving an appropriate
6 copy of this resolution at a date and time to be fixed by the Speaker of the House.