

Senate Resolution 967

By: Senators Davenport of the 44th, Jones of the 10th, Tarver of the 22nd, Brown of the 26th, Reed of the 35th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending the Empire Board of Realtists, Inc.; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Empire Board of Realtists, Inc. (EBR), was organized in 1939 by seven
3 black real estate brokers: W. H. Aiken, John G. Allen, O. T. Bell, Wendell Cunningham,
4 Roger Henderson, J. R. Wilson, Jr., and N. D. Jones who were dissatisfied with unfair
5 housing conditions and disgruntled about the poor choice of housing available to blacks; and
- 6 WHEREAS, between 1939 and 1944, the EBR's main focus was to provide professional
7 standards for its members, and in 1949 it joined the National Association of Real Estate
8 Brokers, Inc., adopting the trade designation of "realist"; and
- 9 WHEREAS, in the late 1950's, EBR's primary purpose was to educate its membership and
10 inform the public on the concepts, complexities, and benefits of the federal Urban Renewal
11 Program; and
- 12 WHEREAS, the EBR also served as a financial source of bail bonds for civil rights protesters
13 arrested during the early 1960's; and
- 14 WHEREAS, during the 1960's, the EBR revised its constitution, continually increased
15 membership, organized a nonprofit corporation for participation in the 221-Housing
16 Program, gained financial status, and instituted educational programs which accentuated its
17 efforts to inform the public about the particulars of home ownership; and
- 18 WHEREAS, through the 1970's and 1980's and to the present, the EBR gained tremendous
19 momentum as an organization and its members made significant individual achievements;
20 and

1 WHEREAS, through its vision of democracy in housing scholarships for youth and
2 community outreach, the EBR has been an invaluable resource for the citizens of metro
3 Atlanta and surrounding areas; and

4 WHEREAS, this organization has made such a positive difference in the lives of people each
5 and every day helping them to obtain the American dream of home ownership that is only
6 fitting and proper that EBR be recognized and commended.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
8 commend the Empire Board of Realists, Inc., for its many years of outstanding service as
9 a professional organization and honor its roster of illustrious members for their important and
10 historical accomplishments.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
12 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Empire Board of Realists, Inc.