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House Resolution 1447

By: Representatives Smyre of the 132nd, Epps of the 128th, Dukes of the 150th, Murphy of the 120th, Heckstall of the 62nd, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing February 18, 2010, as Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Day at the state capitol
- 2 and inviting members to be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other
- 3 purposes.
- 4 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., was founded at Howard University, on
- 5 November 17, 1911, by three students, Brother Oscar J. Cooper, M.D., Brother Frank
- 6 Coleman, Ph.D., Brother Edgar A. Love, D.D., and Brother Ernest E. Just, Ph.D., who served
- 7 as their faculty advisor; and
- 8 WHEREAS, on December 1, 1919, Raymond G. Robinson traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, at
- 9 his own expense, to help Brothers Harold Thomas, Horace A. Hodges, Harvey Smith, and
- 10 Lawrence R. Harper establish Eta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., which was
- 11 composed of college graduated professional men and selected students from Morehouse
- 12 College, Atlanta University, Clark College, and Gammon Theological Seminary, as the first
- 13 chapter of any Black Greek lettered organization to be founded and chartered in the State of
- 14 Georgia and was renamed Eta Omega Chapter in 1923, "The Mother Pearl of the Seventh
- 15 District" of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; and
- 16 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Organization was established in 1963 and since that time, has
- 17 established itself as a flagship state organization within the 7th District under the leadership
- of State Representatives Brother Robert Church (1963-1964, Fort Valley); Arthur Owens,
- 19 Sr. (1965-1975, Atlanta); Lester B. Johnson, Sr. (1976-1979, Savannah); David L. Brown,
- 20 Sr. (1980-1982, Atlanta); Samuel D. Jolley, Jr. (1983-1985, Macon); Alonza A. Bennett
- 21 (1985-1987, Decatur); William "Buck" Crosby (1987-1990, Brunswick); Joseph Gosha
- 22 (1991-1992, Columbus); Elijah Hill (1993-1995, Warner Robbins); Robert H. Carter
- 23 (1995-1998, Decatur); Marion B. Williams (1998-2001, Marietta); Ronald J. Taylor
- 24 (2001-2004, Macon); Wilbur Carver, Jr. (2004-2007, Albany); and James Cistrunk
- 25 (2007-present, Decatur); and

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26 WHEREAS, the most senior Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., residing in the State

- of Georgia, initiated 50 years ago or more, include Brothers Arthur Douglas (1935, Rho Psi);
- 28 Dosh Jackson, Sr. (1935, Psi); Harvey B. Smith (1942, Psi); C. Clayton Powell, Sr. (1945,
- 29 Psi); Tesse Hill (1945, Beta Psi); Thomas Wood, Jr. (1946, Rho Psi); Samuel Dubois-Cook
- 30 (1946, Psi); Borah Walton (1946, Beta Psi); Erskine Boazman (1947, Theta Psi); Fletcher
- 31 Combs (1947, Psi); Alfred Wyatt (1947, Beta Psi); Stanley Goseer (1947, Beta Psi); Eddie
- 32 Daniels (1949, Rho Psi); William Turner (1950, Xi Psi); Marion Porter (1950, Xi Psi);
- 33 George Canty (1950, Rho Psi); Bennie Lowe (1950, Beta Psi); Marion McMillan (1950, Xi
- 34 Psi); and Arthur Hall (1950, Chi Epsilon); and
- 35 WHEREAS, Georgia has produced two Grand Basili of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.,
- 36 Harold Thomas and Moses C. Norman, and three First Vice Grand Basili, John Calhoun,
- 37 Jesse O. Thomas, and Joe Brooks; and
- 38 WHEREAS, there are Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., who serve in the Georgia
- 39 legislature, including Brother Representative Carl Von Epps (1966, Psi); Brother
- 40 Representative Joe Heckstall (1967, Kappa Epsilon); Brother Representative Winfred J.
- 41 Dukes (1975, Gamma Zeta); Brother Representative Calvin Smyre (1980, Lambda Iota);
- 42 Brother Representative Quincy Murphy (1976, Psi Omega); and Brother Representative
- 43 Earnest Smith (1981, Epsilon Gamma Gamma); and
- 44 WHEREAS, this historic event was presented by the Georgia State Leadership Council,
- chaired by State Representative James Cistrunk (1984, Eta); produced by the Georgia State
- 46 Governmental Relations Committee, chaired by Brother Alonza Solomon (1975, Epsilon
- 47 Psi); developed by the Georgia State Omega Day Committee, chaired by Brother H.
- 48 Benjamin Williams (1962, Beta Gamma); and coordinated by Brother William S. Cannon V
- 49 (1972, Eta Omega).
- 50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
- 51 the members of this body recognize Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., commend the cardinal
- 52 principles of manhood, scholarship, perseverance, and uplift endorsed by its members and
- 53 their exemplary public service, and invite its members to be recognized by the House of
- 54 Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the Speaker of the House of
- 55 Representatives.
- 56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Thursday, February 18, 2010, is recognized as Omega
- 57 Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Day at the state capitol.

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58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized

- 59 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to State Representative James
- 60 Cistrunk, Seventh District Representative Keith Jackson, and Grand Basileus Warren Lee.