

House Resolution 1044

By: Representatives Taylor of the 55th, Long of the 61st, Brooks of the 63rd, and Jones of the 44th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring and celebrating the 90th birthday of Mr. John Oscar Boone; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Mr. John Oscar Boone diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable
3 hours of his time, talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state with
4 over 60 years dedicated to prison rehabilitation and reform; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Mr. Boone earned a bachelor's degree from Morehouse College and a master's
6 degree in social work from Atlanta University; and
- 7 WHEREAS, during his distinguished career in penal reform, Mr. Boone served as
8 Superintendent for the Lorton Federal Corrections Complex, Community Relations Officer
9 of Corrections for Massachusetts, and Chief of the Classification and Parole Division for the
10 U.S. Federal Penitentiary in Terre Haute, Indiana; and
- 11 WHEREAS, devoted to educating others about the prison systems of this nation, Mr. Boone
12 served as Director for Crime and Corrections Research at the Southern Regional Council and
13 served on the faculty of Atlanta University, Boston University, Clark University, and
14 Northeastern University; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Mr. Boone was instrumental in the implementation of the Federal Rehabilitation
16 Act of 1965 and represented the United States in Vietnam as a member of the International
17 Prison Evaluation Team; and
- 18 WHEREAS, he served as the first African American Commissioner of Corrections for
19 Massachusetts where his leadership and guidance brought forth many innovative and
20 progressive programs that are still in use today; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Boone's commitment and dedication have been recognized with over 200
22 awards and citations, including Man of the Year and Newsmaker of the Year by the *Boston*
23 *Globe*; and

24 WHEREAS, he is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for
25 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and honor, and by the example he has made of his life and
26 the great service he has given to this country, he makes this world a better place in which to
27 live, and it is only fitting and proper that he be appropriately recognized during this very
28 special and memorable time of his life.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body join in commending Mr. John Oscar Boone on the occasion of his
31 90th birthday and wishing him many more years of happiness.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. John Oscar Boone.