

House Resolution 135

By: Representatives Smyre of the 132nd, Meadows of the 5th, Abrams of the 84th, Murphy of the 120th, Smith of the 122nd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 3, 2011, as Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Day at the state capitol and
2 inviting them to be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., was founded at Howard University on
4 November 17, 1911, by three students, Brother Oscar J. Cooper, M.D., Brother Frank
5 Coleman, Ph.D., and Brother Edgar A. Love, D.D., and Brother Ernest E. Just, Ph.D., who
6 served as their faculty advisor; and

7 WHEREAS, on November 17, 2011, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., will celebrate "ONE
8 HUNDRED YEARS OF SERVICE" to communities throughout the United States and many
9 countries throughout the world in many diverse fields of endeavor; and

10 WHEREAS, Brother Dosh R. Jackson, Sr. was born in Macon, Georgia, on February 22,
11 1911, and is the oldest living active member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; while
12 attending Morris Brown College, he received special permission from Omega Psi Phi
13 Founder Bishop Edgar A. Love to pledge the fraternity at Psi Chapter at Morehouse College
14 in 1935; following his initiation, he established Alpha Sigma Chapter at Morris Brown
15 College; he received the Omega Psi Phi 75 Year Member Award in 2010; has been married
16 to Juliette Jackson for 72 years; worked for the U.S. Postal Service for 35 years; and has been
17 an entrepreneur for 35 years; and

18 WHEREAS, men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., who have distinguished themselves in
19 the field of science include: Dr. Ernest Everett Just, internationally known biologist; Dr.
20 Charles Drew, who perfected the use of blood plasma; Dr. Ronald E. McNair, astronaut,
21 member of the flight team aboard the failed Challenger Space Shuttle, and graduate of MIT;
22 Charles Bolden, astronaut, NASA Administrator (2009-present), and graduate of the U.S.
23 Naval Academy; and Dr. Fred Drew Gregory, astronaut and graduate of the U.S. Air Force
24 Academy; and

25 WHEREAS, men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., who have distinguished themselves in
26 the field of sports include: Dr. Robert M. Screen, heralded tennis coach at Hampton
27 University and collegiate coach with the most wins in NCAA history regardless of sport; Joe
28 Black, all-time great Brooklyn Dodger baseball pitcher; Michael Jordan, acclaimed as the
29 greatest basketball player in NBA history; Charlie Ward, 1993 Heisman Trophy winner and
30 former NBA guard with the NY Knicks; Dr. LeRoy Walker, accomplished North Carolina
31 Central University track coach who also served as president of the U.S. Olympic Committee;
32 and Terrance Trammell, two-time Olympic silver medal winner in 110m hurdles; and

33 WHEREAS, men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., who have distinguished themselves in
34 the field of government include: William Hastie, first Governor of the Virgin Islands;
35 Lawrence Douglas Wilder, first black Governor of Virginia; James "Jim" Clyburn, the House
36 Majority Whip in the 110th Congress; Togo West, Secretary of the Army; and Jesse Jackson,
37 candidate for the U.S. Presidency in 1984 and 1988 and founder of Rainbow/Push Coalition;
38 and

39 WHEREAS, men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., who have distinguished themselves in
40 the field of the arts include: Langston Hughes, the poet laureate who excelled as a poet,
41 playwright, novelist, lyricist, and humorist; William H. "Bill" Cosby, comedian, author, and
42 actor; William "Count" Basie, internationally known pianist, composer, arranger, and band
43 leader; Steve Harvey, comedian and actor; Tom Joyner, popular radio host; and Carl Rowan,
44 syndicated columnist; and

45 WHEREAS, there are brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., who serve in the Georgia
46 Legislature, including: Brother Representative Carl Von Epps, (1966, Psi Chapter); Brother
47 Representative Joe Heckstall (1967, Kappa Epsilon Chapter); Brother Representative
48 Winfred J. Dukes (1975, Gamma Zeta Chapter); Brother Representative Calvin Smyre (1980,
49 Lambda Iota Chapter); Brother Representative Quincy Murphy (1976 Psi Omega Chapter);
50 and Brother Representative Ernest Smith (1981 Epsilon Gamma Gamma Chapter).

51 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
52 the members of this body recognize Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and commend the
53 cardinal principles of Manhood, Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift endorsed by its
54 members, their exemplary public service, and invite them to appear before this body at a date
55 and time designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the purposes of being
56 recognized by the House of Representatives.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
58 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to: Omega Psi Phi Fraternity,
59 Inc.; State Representative Kenneth Demons; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Seventh District
60 Representative Keith Jackson; and Grand Basileus Dr. Andrew Ray.