

Senate Resolution 96

By: Senator Brown of the 26th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 3, 2011, as Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Day at the Georgia State
2 Capitol; 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, men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., who have distinguished themselves in
11 the field of science include: Dr. Ernest Everett Just, internationally known biologist; Dr.
12 Charles Drew, who perfected the use of blood plasma; Dr. Ronald E. McNair, astronaut,
13 member of the flight team aboard the failed Challenger Space Shuttle, and graduate of MIT;
14 Charles Bolden, astronaut, NASA administrator (2009-present), and graduate of the U.S.
15 Naval Academy; and Dr. Fred Drew Gregory, astronaut and graduate of the U.S. Air Force
16 Academy; and

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

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

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

37 WHEREAS, there are Brothers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., who serve in the Georgia
38 Legislature, including: Brother Representative Carl Von Epps, (1966, Psi Chapter); Brother
39 Representative Joe Heckstall (1967, Kappa Epsilon Chapter); Brother Representative
40 Winfred J. Dukes (1975, Gamma Zeta Chapter); Brother Representative Calvin Smyre (1980,
41 Lambda Iota Chapter); Brother Representative Quincy Murphy (1976 Psi Omega Chapter);
42 and Brother Representative Ernest Smith (1981 Epsilon Gamma Gamma).

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
44 recognize Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and commend the cardinal principles of Manhood,
45 Scholarship, Perseverance, and Uplift endorsed by its members and their exemplary public
46 service.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate shall transmit appropriate
48 copies of this resolution to Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., State Representative Kenneth
49 Demons, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Seventh District Representative Keith Jackson, and
50 Grand Basileus Dr. Andrew Ray.