

Senate Resolution 327

By: Senators Jones of the 10th, Davis of the 22nd, Ramsey, Sr. of the 43rd, James of the 35th, Tate of the 38th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating 50 years of matriculation of African American students at the Georgia Institute
2 of Technology; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in the academic year of 1961, the first three African American students to ever
4 enroll at the Georgia Institute of Technology were Ford Greene, Ralph Long, and Lawrence
5 Williams; and

6 WHEREAS, the leadership of Georgia Tech President Edwin D. Harrison provided an
7 example of how nonviolent desegregation could occur on a college campus without a court
8 order during a period of struggle and painful progress in the Deep South; and

9 WHEREAS, Georgia Tech's nonviolent desegregation led to the beginning of a diverse
10 culture that broadened the educational experience of its matriculating students; and

11 WHEREAS, Georgia Tech is now recognized as a leading producer of African American
12 engineers in the nation; and

13 WHEREAS, African American students, faculty, staff, and alumni contribute to the success
14 of Georgia Tech, the City of Atlanta, and the State of Georgia; and

15 WHEREAS, Georgia Tech has published a strategic plan that expresses its commitment to
16 recruit, develop, retain, and engage a diverse cadre of students, faculty, and staff with a wide
17 variety of background, perspectives, interests, and talents, creating a campus community that
18 exemplifies the best in all of us, in our intellectual pursuits, our diversity of thought, our
19 personal integrity, and our inclusive excellence; and

20 WHEREAS, this 50th anniversary of African American matriculation at Georgia Tech is an
21 opportunity to recognize the enduring impact of its contributions to diversity in the public

22 interest of Georgia and the United States, and it is fitting and proper to recognize this historic
23 achievement.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body,
25 especially all members of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus, commend the Georgia
26 Institute of Technology and extend congratulations to the first African American students and
27 all of those who followed and left their imprint on the state, national, and global communities
28 through their contributions as students, faculty, alumni, staff, or administrators.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
30 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Georgia Tech President G. P. "Bud"
31 Peterson, on behalf of the entire Institute.