

House Resolution 448

By: Representatives Rogers of the 29th, Dunahoo of the 30th, Hawkins of the 27th, and Barr of the 103rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Reverend Doctor James (Jim) Newton Thompson; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
4 with the passing of Reverend Doctor James (Jim) Newton Thompson on June 13, 2012, at
5 the age of 79; and

6 WHEREAS, he was born on June 17, 1932, in Athens, Georgia, a beloved son of James and
7 Louise Thompson; and

8 WHEREAS, he graduated from Athens High School and shared a love for the University of
9 Georgia Bulldogs; and

10 WHEREAS, he continued his education at Emory at Oxford and graduated from Emory
11 University in 1953 with a Bachelor of Arts in History, and while at Emory, he was president
12 of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity and was active in the Emory University Glee Club; and

13 WHEREAS, he went on to attend the Candler School of Theology, earning his Master of
14 Divinity degree, and McCormick Theological Seminary, where he earned his Doctor of
15 Ministry degree; and

16 WHEREAS, he dedicated over 50 years of his life to ministry in the United Methodist
17 Church, his first appointment being to the Bishop Circuit, where he lived with his new bride,
18 Billie, and his second appointment being the facilitator of the construction of the Belvedere
19 United Methodist Church sanctuary and education building; and

20 WHEREAS, he went on to serve the First United Methodist Church, and during his fourth
21 appointment, he led the Gainesville First United Methodist Church through the relocation

22 and construction of the sanctuary and original facility; and his last appointment was to
23 Decatur First United Methodist Church; and

24 WHEREAS, in addition to his formal ministry, he traveled extensively over the past 24 years
25 on mission trips to Honduras; and a resident of Hall county for over 30 years, he was
26 instrumental in developing the Chaplaincy Program at Northeast Georgia Medical Center,
27 in starting CONTACT Ministries, and in serving as a member of the Gainesville Race
28 Relations Council; and

29 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife of 58 years, Billie; daughters, Karen, Susan, and
30 Margaret Anne; grandchildren, Juliette, Abby, and Jay; and a host of other loving family and
31 friends; and

32 WHEREAS, he will long be remembered for his love of family and friendship, and he will
33 be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
35 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Reverend Doctor James
36 (Jim) Newton Thompson and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
38 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Reverend
39 Doctor James (Jim) Newton Thompson.