

House Resolution 679

By: Representatives Peake of the 141st, Epps of the 144th, Dickey of the 140th, Harbin of the 122nd, Stephens of the 164th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law and recognizing
2 March 18, 2015, as Legislative Day with Mercer Law at the state capitol; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Walter F. George School of Law, also known as Mercer Law School, was
5 founded in 1873 and is one of the oldest law schools in the United States and has a long
6 tradition of preparing practice-ready lawyers who uphold the highest ideals of the legal
7 profession; and

8 WHEREAS, Mercer Law School has been a member of the Association of American Law
9 Schools since 1923 and was the first law school in Georgia to be fully accredited by the
10 American Bar Association in 1925; and

11 WHEREAS, with an enrollment of approximately 440 students, Mercer Law School is one
12 of 12 schools and colleges of Mercer University, which has been listed among the top
13 institutions of higher education in the nation; and

14 WHEREAS, Mercer Law School provides an award-winning Woodruff Curriculum and has
15 twice received the E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Award by the American Bar
16 Association recognizing Mercer's excellence and innovation in its professional program;
17 Mercer Law School has consistently ranked in the top four Law Schools for Legal Writing
18 by *U.S. News and World Report*; and

19 WHEREAS, Mercer Law School is home of the National Criminal Defense College, the
20 Legal Writing Institute, and the Journal of Southern Legal History, and it is nationally
21 recognized for its exceptional programs in legal writing, moot court, experiential education,
22 and professionalism and ethics; and

23 WHEREAS, Alumni of Mercer Law practice all over the country, and beyond, in a wide
24 range of careers; they practice in law firms of all sizes; serve as in-house counsel for
25 corporations; represent local, state, and federal agencies; practice in the public interest for
26 nonprofit and other community organizations; and serve in military JAG offices, political
27 offices, and other leadership positions; whether as part of their daily practice or as a
28 commitment to pro bono service, Mercer Law alumni are also actively engaged in advocacy
29 on behalf of the most vulnerable individuals in our nation; and

30 WHEREAS, Dean and University Professor of Ethical Formation Daisy Hurst Floyd states
31 that the Law School is a community of students, faculty, and staff united in a common
32 educational goal: preparing law students for lives of service and fulfillment following
33 graduation.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
35 the members of this body commend Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law
36 for its many years of excellent legal education and recognize March 18, 2015, as Legislative
37 Day with Mercer Law at the state capitol.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
39 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
40 Mercer University's Walter F. George School of Law.