

Senate Resolution 109

By: Senators Tate of the 38th, Butler of the 55th, Henson of the 41st and Fort of the 39th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 1, 2017, as Clark Atlanta University Day at the state capitol; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University (CAU) was established in 1988 upon the consolidation
4 of its two parent institutions Atlanta University and Clark College; and

5 WHEREAS, the University's four colleges offer 38 academic programs to roughly 4,000
6 students each year, a valuable contribution to the state's future workforce and leadership; and

7 WHEREAS, CAU hosts the Center for Cancer Research and Therapeutic Development and,
8 as such, is the only Historically Black Colleges and Universities member of the Georgia
9 Research Alliance and the nation's largest academic prostate cancer research center; and as
10 a result of its breakthrough research presently has five patents and patents pending; and

11 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University produces Jazz 91.9 FM-WCLK, the metro-Atlanta
12 community's only jazz radio station, and a National Public Radio affiliate, which will be
13 celebrating 41 years of service to the community this year; and

14 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University is the home of one of the nation's most prolific
15 undergraduate Mass Media Arts program, responsible for nurturing talent such as Sheldon
16 "Spike" Lee, Nnegest Likke, Jacque Reed and Eva Marcille; the Center for Functional
17 Nanoscale Materials, the Center for Alternative Energy and Energy Conservation, the Center
18 for Biomedical and Bimolecular Research, and the Center for Cyberspace and Information
19 Assurance, all serving to advance the interest of boundaries of science, technology,
20 innovation, and discovery in meaningful and profound ways; and the Center for Innovation
21 and Entrepreneurship Development, one of the nation's most progressive forums integrating
22 traditional academics, market research, intelligence, and innovation to increase
23 competitiveness among CAU graduates and local entrepreneurs; and

24 WHEREAS, CAU is the only private historically black university to host a chapter of Phi
25 Kappa Phi, America's most prestigious honor society for all academic disciplines, in addition
26 to Golden Key International Honor Society, Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, Alpha Kappa Mu
27 Honor Society, and several discipline-specific honor societies; and

28 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University is an important contributor to local, regional, and
29 national communities, engaging more than 1,000 student and faculty volunteers annually in
30 service to local nonprofit organizations, supporting the educational systems of Fulton,
31 DeKalb, Cobb, Rockdale, and nearby counties, and continues to reach beyond the campus
32 footprint to address critical issues through peaceful, educational means in communities
33 stretching from Ferguson, Missouri, to Charleston, South Carolina; and

34 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University has produced stellar alumni who constitute
35 irreplaceable threads in the fabric of America, including: Ralph David Abernathy, Marva
36 Collins, James Weldon Johnson, Kenny Leon, Lucy Craft Laney, Bomani Jones, Fletcher
37 Henderson, and State Senators Horacena Tate and Vincent Fort, and is now under the
38 leadership of its fourth President, Ronald A. Johnson, Ph.D., who is applying his
39 considerable expertise, wisdom, and passion for students toward mobilizing for the future.

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
41 recognize February 1, 2017, as Clark Atlanta University Day at the state capitol and
42 commend Clark Atlanta University, Dr. Ronald A. Johnson, President of Clark Atlanta
43 University, CAU faculty, students, staff, alumni, and friends for their many years of
44 dedicated service to the higher education of Georgia's citizens and for attracting young
45 scholars from across the nation to this great state.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
47 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Clark Atlanta
48 University and Dr. Ronald A. Johnson.