

House Resolution 732

By: Representatives Smyre of the 135th, Taylor of the 173rd, Hogan of the 179th, Collins of the 68th, and Paris of the 142nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Russell-Stevenson-Williams mini family and friends reunion July 14
2 through 17, 2017; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, although little is known about the day-to-day lives of the ancestors of the
4 Russell-Stevenson-Williams families before their move to Oklahoma, they had their humble
5 beginnings in Texas, Mississippi, and Alabama, and when freed from slavery, they settled
6 in Boley, Davis, Tatum, Oklahoma City, Hennipen, and Tulsa; and

7 WHEREAS, during the 1940s through 1960s, the majority of the families had made Duncan,
8 Oklahoma, their home and were able to purchase property on or near the "Hill"; and

9 WHEREAS, the families that started the reunion are Roosevelt Russell, R.D. Russell, Percy
10 and Ethel Russell, Stanley and Bernetta Stevenson, O.J. and Marie Stevenson, John and
11 Elzora Williams, and Kimble and Mary Williams; and

12 WHEREAS, the first family and friends reunion, held in Hennipen, Oklahoma, in 1977 at the
13 home of Kimble and Mary Williams, was attended by over 600 family and friends; and

14 WHEREAS, the living patriarchs and matriarchs who still attend the family reunions are
15 Gladys Jacobs age 93, Stanley Stevenson age 93, Wiley Williams age 92, Percy Russell age
16 89, and Ethel Russell age 88; and

17 WHEREAS, in 2017 in Conyers, Georgia, this family reunion, held every two years, gives
18 those traveling from California, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, and other states a chance to
19 visit with their beloved family members and friends.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body recognize the Russell-Stevenson-Williams mini family and friends

22 reunion July 14 through 17, 2017, and extend their sincere best wishes to each member of
23 this remarkable family.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
25 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
26 members of the Russell-Stevenson-Williams family.