

Senate Resolution 687

By: Senators Tate of the 38th, Henson of the 41st, Davenport of the 44th, James of the 35th, Seay of the 34th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 14, 2018, as Clark Atlanta University Day at the state capitol; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University was established in 1988 upon the consolidation of its
4 two parent institutions Atlanta University, established in 1865, and Clark College,
5 established in 1869; and

6 WHEREAS, the university's four colleges offer 38 academic programs to roughly 4,000
7 students each year, making a valuable contribution to the future workforce and leadership of
8 Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University is the home of the Center for Cancer Research and
10 Therapeutic Development which thrives under the leadership of Georgia Research Alliance's
11 eminent scholar, Shafiq A. Khan, Ph.D.; and

12 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University is the home of the Center for Functional Nanoscale
13 Materials, the Center for Alternative Energy and Energy Conservation, the Center for
14 Biomedical and Bimolecular Research, and the Center for Cyberspace and Information
15 Assurance, all serving to advance the boundaries of science, technology, innovation, and
16 discovery in meaningful and profound ways; and

17 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University is the home of Jazz 91.9 FM-WCLK, an NPR affiliate,
18 and is Metro Atlanta community's only jazz radio station and this year celebrates 41 years
19 of service to the community; and

20 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University is the home of one of the nation's most prolific
21 undergraduate Mass Media Arts program, responsible for nurturing talent such as Sheldon
22 "Spike" Lee, Nnegest Likke, Jacque Reed, and Eva Marcille; and

23 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University is the home of the Center for Innovation and
24 Entrepreneurship Development, one of the nation's most progressive forums integrating
25 traditional academics, market research, and intelligence and innovation to increase the level
26 of competitiveness among Clark graduates and local entrepreneurs; and

27 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University is the only private historically black university to host
28 a chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, America's most prestigious honor society for all academic
29 disciplines, in addition to Golden Key International Honor Society, Phi Eta Sigma Honor
30 Society, and Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, as well as several discipline-specific honor
31 societies; and

32 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University, also known as "Panther Nation," is home to the 2017
33 Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Men's Basketball Champions, coached by
34 former NBA standout Darrel Walker; and

35 WHEREAS, Clark Atlanta University has produced stellar alumni who constitute
36 irreplaceable threads in the fabric of America, including: Ralph David Abernathy, Marva
37 Collins, James Weldon Johnson, Kenny Leon, Lucy Craft Laney, Bomani Jones, Fletcher
38 Henderson, and of course, state senators Horacena Tate and Vincent Fort, and is now under
39 the leadership of its fourth President, Ronald A. Johnson, Ph.D., who is applying his
40 considerable expertise, wisdom, and passion for students toward Mobilizing for the Future
41 and Igniting New Possibilities with IDEAS – innovation and entrepreneurship, design and
42 systems thinking, environmental sustainability, the arts and humanities, and the sciences and
43 technology – that matter.

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
45 recognize and commend Clark Atlanta University, Dr. Ronald A. Johnson, the university
46 faculty, students, staff, alumni, and friends for their many years of dedicated service to the
47 higher education of Georgia's citizens and for attracting young scholars from across the
48 nation to our great state.

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