

Senate Resolution 772

By: Senators James of the 35th, Tate of the 38th, Seay of the 34th, Rhett of the 33rd, Davenport of the 44th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Cordy Tindell (C.T.) Vivian; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, C.T. Vivian was born on July 30, 1924, in Boonville, Missouri; and
- 3 WHEREAS, he is a distinguished minister, author, organizer, and leader in the Civil Rights
4 Movement; and
- 5 WHEREAS, C.T. and Martin Luther King Jr. were close friends and helped closely with
6 sit-ins and civil rights marches; and
- 7 WHEREAS, he went to Western Illinois University and worked in the school newspaper but
8 decided to leave to focus on his passion for ministry. He later studied ministry at the
9 American Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee; and
- 10 WHEREAS, in 1970, he wrote a book called *Black Power and the American Myth* about the
11 failings of the Civil Rights Movement; and
- 12 WHEREAS, C.T. helped found the Nashville Christian Leadership Conference and
13 organized the first sit-ins in Nashville in 1960 and the first civil rights march in 1961; and
- 14 WHEREAS, he rode the first "Freedom Bus" and worked beside some notable individuals
15 from SCLC, which helped the passage of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964; and
- 16 WHEREAS, in the 1970s, C.T. moved to Atlanta and founded Black Action Strategies and
17 Information Center (BASICS), which consulted on multiculturalism and race relations in the
18 workplace; and
- 19 WHEREAS, in 2008, he founded the C.T. Vivian Leadership Institute Inc. The main
20 focus was to "Create a Model Leadership Culture in Atlanta." The institute later developed

21 the "Yes, We Care" campaign in support of Morris Brown College after the city turned off
22 the water to the college; and

23 WHEREAS, most recently, he was the recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom
24 awarded by President Obama on August 8, 2013; and

25 WHEREAS, C.T. Vivian continues to share his wisdom, love, and faith to all and continues
26 to be a beacon of hope and leadership to Atlanta and this great state.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
28 recognize and commend Cordy Tindell (C.T.) Vivian for his magnificent contributions in
29 leadership and faith to not only the citizens of this state but also the nation.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
31 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Cordy Tindell
32 (C.T.) Vivian.