

House Resolution 1497

By: Representative Thomas of the 56<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Central State University Chorus; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the highly acclaimed Central State University Chorus, under the direction of  
3 Professor Carlos B. Brown, has a repertoire encompassing all periods and styles, highlighting  
4 the contributions of African American composers and arrangers; and

5 WHEREAS, located in historic Wilberforce, Ohio, Central State University has served as a  
6 launching pad for many outstanding singers of international renown, including Leontyne  
7 Price, Roberta Alexander, and Nancy Wilson; and

8 WHEREAS, this remarkable chorus includes more than 50 talented students from all areas  
9 of the university; past notable conductors and contributors to its rich musical legacy include  
10 Beatrice Seberia Turner O'Rourke, Oscar Henry, Arthur Herndon, William Caldwell, and  
11 Jeremy Winston; and

12 WHEREAS, the ensemble has performed in the chambers of the Ohio State House of  
13 Representatives and the State Senate, as well as for the Ohio Music Educators Association;  
14 the singers have toured throughout the United States, in China, and across Europe, with such  
15 stars as Minister B. Chase Williams, Karen Clark Sheard, Stevie Wonder, Albertina Walker,  
16 Tremaine Hawkins, and Vaclav Nelhybel; and

17 WHEREAS, some highlights over the years include the group's Grammy-nominated  
18 performance of *Amen: A Gospel Celebration*, with Erich Kunzel, in 1994; an invitation to  
19 perform at the White House from President Barack Obama in 2013; and a performance of  
20 *Porgy and Bess* at the historic Prague Proms Festival in 2014, which was the culmination of  
21 a 32-day tour of Spain, Germany, and the Czech Republic; and

22 WHEREAS, members of the chorus play a very active role in campus events and serve as  
23 goodwill artists and ambassadors in a wide variety of settings, including conventions,  
24 banquets, and convocations; and

25 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
26 extraordinary musical ensemble be appropriately recognized.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
28 the members of this body commend the Central State University Chorus for their rich history  
29 of musical achievement and wish them continued success.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
31 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to  
32 Professor Carlos B. Brown and the Central State University Chorus.