

House Resolution 196

By: Representatives Crawford of the 89th, Sampson of the 153rd, Griffin of the 149th, Reese of the 140th, Willis of the 55th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 11, 2025, as Omega Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. was founded on November 17, 1911, on the
3 campus of Howard University, making it the first international fraternal organization founded
4 at a Historically Black College or University; and

5 WHEREAS, the fraternity has four founders—three undergraduate students—Edgar Amos
6 Love, Oscar James Cooper, and Frank Coleman, along with their faculty advisor, Ernest
7 Everett Just; and

8 WHEREAS, the fraternity has four cardinal principles, which are Manhood, Scholarship,
9 Perseverance, and Uplift; and

10 WHEREAS, the name Omega Psi Phi was derived from the initials of the Greek phrase
11 meaning "friendship is essential to the soul," which was selected as the fraternity's motto; and

12 WHEREAS, there are over 250,000 members globally and over 750 chapters throughout the
13 United States, Canada, Mexico, Korea, Japan, China, Ghana, United Kingdom, Bahamas, and
14 Dominican Republic; and

15 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Organization was established in 1963 and is composed of
16 over 10,000 members and 46 chapters; it provides service in 40 counties throughout the State
17 of Georgia and 16 colleges and universities including Historically Black Colleges and
18 Universities; and

19 WHEREAS, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. International Headquarters is located in
20 DeKalb County, Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, the fraternity has 12 mandated programs consisting of fatherhood training and
22 youth mentoring, supporting STEM, providing scholarships to high schools seniors and
23 college students, conducting talent hunts to showcase their talents through the arts,
24 facilitating career development workshops, promoting medical and health awareness, and
25 other civic programs including voter registration, education, and mobilization; and

26 WHEREAS, there are many Omega men recognized for their leadership in various industries
27 nationally and internationally, including: The Honorable Hank Johnson, congressman of
28 Georgia's 4th Congressional District; Dr. M. Brian Blake, president of Georgia State
29 University; Dr. Kevin James, president of Morris Brown College; Sheriff Gregory D.
30 Countryman, sheriff of Muscogee County; Sheriff Craig Owens, sheriff of Cobb County; Fitz
31 Johnson, public service commissioner for District 3; Scott Hamilton, police chief of Austell,
32 Georgia; Omari Crawford, representative of House District 89; David Sampson,
33 representative of House District 153; and former Dean of the House Calvin Smyre, just to
34 name a few.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
36 the members of this body commend the State of Georgia Organization Omega Psi Phi

37 Fraternity, Inc., for its continued commitment to public service and recognize February 11,
38 2025, as Omega Day at the state capitol.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to
41 members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.