

## House Resolution 881

By: Representative Glanton of the 75<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Clayton State University upon the grand occasion of its 50th anniversary and  
2 recognizing January 14, 2020, as Clayton State University Day at the state capitol; and for  
3 other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, in 1966, the citizens of Clayton County provided \$4.9 million in funds to build  
5 the new campus, marking the beginning of a partnership between local governments and the  
6 university that currently produces an annual economic impact of more than \$283 million; and

7 WHEREAS, in September 1969, Clayton Junior College opened its doors to 942 students,  
8 and as of September 2019, it has more than 7,000 students, over 70 percent of which are from  
9 south of I-20 with 115 counties represented; and

10 WHEREAS, Clayton State University has evolved from a junior college to a state university,  
11 offering more than 40 undergraduate and eight graduate programs through its four colleges:  
12 arts and sciences, business, health and information, and mathematical sciences; and

13 WHEREAS, the university's Center for Continuing and Professional Education has educated  
14 more than 11,000 students in the last five years through professional certificate programs and  
15 courses for those that seek to advance their careers; and

16 WHEREAS, the university's learning centers in Henry and Fayette counties have expanded  
17 access to higher education and career readiness to hundreds of dual-enrolled high school  
18 students each year, many graduating with their associate degrees; and

19 WHEREAS, the Film and Digital Media Center at the Clayton State University Lucy Huie  
20 Hall Film Studio is fulfilling the goals of the High Demand Career Initiative program through  
21 the training and development of below-the-line technicians for Georgia's \$2.9 billion film  
22 and television production industry; and

23 WHEREAS, graduates of Clayton State University play an essential role in the economics  
24 of the south metropolitan area, especially in the healthcare, supply chain management, film  
25 production, business management, computer science, cybersecurity, and strategic leadership  
26 industries; and

27 WHEREAS, the university now partners with more than 2,500 private, nonprofit, and  
28 government entities throughout the region to make dreams real by providing scholarships,  
29 internships, and employment opportunities to students; and

30 WHEREAS, Clayton State University raised more than \$15 million during its first  
31 comprehensive campaign, Greater In Mind, a four-year effort to offer greater financial  
32 support to students who may otherwise not be able to complete their degree without some  
33 form of financial aid; and

34 WHEREAS, the support of the legislature combined with the support of donors and business  
35 partners has enabled Clayton State University to perform effectively and produce substantial  
36 economic growth; and

37 WHEREAS, Clayton State University is ranked third among state universities for its  
38 economic impact and fifth overall among public regional colleges in the south by US News  
39 and World Report; *James Magazine* designated Clayton State University as the 2nd Best  
40 Value Public University in Georgia; and

41 WHEREAS, the success of Clayton State University is due to the implementation of strategic  
42 plans that emphasize student success through career-based learning, leadership opportunities,  
43 community engagement, and the recognition that those achievements are possible through  
44 shared values of excellence, integrity, innovation, transparency, and collegiality.

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
46 the members of this body commend Clayton State University upon the grand occasion of its  
47 50th anniversary and recognize January 14, 2020, as Clayton State University Day at the  
48 state capitol.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
50 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to  
51 President Thomas J. Hynes; Dr. Kevin Demmitt, provost and vice president of academic  
52 affairs; Dr. Shakeer Abdullah, vice president of student affairs; Reginald Turner, executive

53 director of continuing and professional education; and Ms. Danielle Eubanks, president of  
54 the Student Government Association.