

Senate Resolution 681

By: Senators Seay of the 34th, Davenport of the 44th, Butler of the 55th and Sims of the 12th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Dr. Ozias Pearson; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
3 with the passing of Dr. Ozias Pearson on August 26, 2015; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Dr. Ozias Pearson was born on November 14, 1932, in Youngstown, Ohio, a
5 beloved son of Troy Pearson and Georgia Mary Benford; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he received a Bachelor of Science degree from Fort Valley State College in
7 1955, a Master of Arts degree from New York University in 1958, a Doctor of Education
8 degree from the University of Kentucky in 1966, a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from John
9 Marshall Law School in 1975, and a Leadership Certification in Administration and
10 Supervision from the University of West Georgia in 1987; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Dr. Pearson lived a balanced life, exemplified through his involvement in
12 basketball, first as a valued player and later as an official for high school and college games,
13 ultimately receiving the honor of being inducted into the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic
14 Conference Hall of Fame in 2000; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Dr. Pearson impacted countless young individuals throughout his career as a
16 business education teacher with the Detroit, Michigan, Public Schools; Dean of Students and
17 Associate Professor of Education at Fort Valley State College; Assistant to the President for
18 Planning and Development and Professor of Education at Texas Southern University;
19 founding director of the Student Services Institute; Director of the Consortium for Land
20 Grant Colleges and Universities; vice president of human resources with M&M Products
21 Company; high school administrator; and Coordinator of Personnel and Recruiting for
22 Clayton County Schools; and

23 WHEREAS, he retired in July, 1998, as Executive Director for Human Resources and
24 Instructional Services for the Clayton County School District after a long and distinguished
25 career in public education; and

26 WHEREAS, his significant organizational and leadership talents, his remarkable patience
27 and diplomacy, his keen sense of vision, and his sensitivity to the needs of the citizens of his
28 community earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues and associates; and

29 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith, Dr. Ozias Pearson was a lifelong member of
30 Triumph, The Church of the New Age, of which his father was Senior Bishop; and

31 WHEREAS, Dr. Pearson was supported by his loving wife of 57 years, Shirley T. Pearson;
32 their two remarkable children, Melissa Pearson Bailey and the late Peter Bailey; and his four
33 wonderful grandchildren, Pearson Thomas Bailey, Parker Thaxton Bailey, Preston Tyler
34 Bailey, and Zachery Austin; and

35 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Dr. Ozias Pearson will long be remembered
36 for his love of family and friendship, and this loyal husband, father, and friend will be missed
37 by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
39 join in honoring the life and memory of Dr. Ozias Pearson and express their deepest and
40 most sincere regret at his passing.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
42 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the family of Dr.
43 Ozias Pearson.