

Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of Howard University, and to recognize Howard University's commitment to excellence, scholarship, cultural diversity, and leadership.

WHEREAS, Howard University's charter was approved on March 2, 1867, by President Andrew Johnson;

WHEREAS, Howard University was named for General Oliver Otis Howard, who was both the founder of Howard University and Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau.

WHEREAS, General Oliver Otis Howard later served as President of Howard University from 1869–1874;

WHEREAS, Howard University celebrates its sesquicentennial on Charter Day, March 2, 2017;

WHEREAS, Howard University's mission and vision is to provide African-Americans with access to a high quality education;

WHEREAS, Howard University is a comprehensive research institution comprised of 13 schools and colleges with students pursuing more than 120 areas of study;

WHEREAS, students of Howard University have been awarded more than 120,000 degrees in the arts, sciences, and humanities;

WHEREAS, Howard University produces the most African-American medical doctors, dentists, lawyers, and doctoral degree holders of any other college or university;

WHEREAS, Howard University has produced the highest number of Rhodes Scholars of any other historically black college or university;

WHEREAS, Howard University has helped to shape the fabric of the District by contributing to the city's economy and culture through countless social and community service projects;

47 WHEREAS, Howard University students and faculty remain committed to District civic
48 engagement including supporting local small businesses, educating students in STEM-focused
49 middle schools, and providing low-income residents with medical services;
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51 WHEREAS, Howard University has produced prominent leaders in several disciplines
52 including: Thurgood Marshall, first African-American Supreme Court Justice; Stokely
53 Carmichael, prominent civil rights leader; Roberta Flack, distinguished vocalist; Phylicia
54 Rashad, renowned actress, singer, and stage director; Patricia Roberts Harris, first African-
55 American woman to serve in a United States Cabinet; Toni Morrison, award-winning novelist;
56 Elijah Cummings, notable United States Representative, Paulette Brown, first African-American
57 woman president of the American Bar Association; Kamala Harris, first African-American
58 United States Senator of California; and
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60 WHEREAS, Howard University has educated numerous District residents, three District
61 mayors and several Councilmembers.
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63 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, This
64 resolution may be cited as the “150th Anniversary of Howard University Ceremonial Resolution
65 of 2017”.
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67 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia celebrates Howard University on the
68 occasion of its sesquicentennial anniversary and recognizes and honors Howard University as an
69 institution dedicated scholarship, excellence and the betterment of humanity.
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71 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
72 the District of Columbia Register.