

House Resolution 1143

By: Representatives Jackson of the 68th and Reese of the 140th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Brother Dr. William Simmons; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity
3 established for African American men, was founded at Cornell University in Ithaca, New
4 York, on December 4, 1906, by Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, Eugene
5 Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and
6 Vertner Woodson Tandy; known as the "Jewels," they recognized the need for a strong bond
7 of brotherhood among African descendants in this country; and

8 WHEREAS, Brother Dr. William Simmons has led the Georgia District's Political Action
9 Committee as chair for the past 10 years; and

10 WHEREAS, Brother Dr. Simmons is a 1996 initiate of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.,
11 through the Delta Eta Chapter seated at Savannah State University, where he is a 1998
12 graduate; and

13 WHEREAS, Brother Simmons is the first African American to serve as president of the
14 Georgia Council of Court Administrators. He currently serves as the district court

15 administrator for the 6th Judicial District and he also serves as the chairman of the Savannah
16 State University Foundation; and

17 WHEREAS, Brother Simmons joins the ranks of renowned Georgia Alphas such as Rev. Dr.
18 Martin Luther King, Jr.; Ambassador Andrew Young; Mayor Maynard H. Jackson; Senator
19 Raphael Warnock; Congressman David Scott; W.E.B. Dubois; Dr. Louis Sullivan; Actor
20 Omari Hardwick; and John Hope; and

21 WHEREAS, the 17th Annual Alpha Day at the Capitol convenes under the leadership of
22 Georgia District Director James Ford, II; Assistant District Director Rev. Anthony Mitchell;
23 and Political Action Committee Chairman Aaron Johnson, representing 42 chapters across
24 the state.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
26 the members of this body commend Brother Dr. William Simmons upon the 17th Annual
27 Alpha Day at the Capitol for his dedicated work to Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and the
28 Georgia District as well as encourage all Brothers to recognize and applaud his contributions
29 and distinguished leadership.

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 Brother Dr. William Simmons.