

Senate Resolution 650

By: Senators Davenport of the 44th, Sims of the 12th, Rhett of the 33rd and Anderson of the 43rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 80th anniversary of the United Negro College Fund; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is an American philanthropic
3 organization that funds scholarships for under-represented students as well as provides
4 general operating support to private historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and
5 is the nation's largest, oldest, and most successful comprehensive higher education assistance
6 organization for minorities; and

7 WHEREAS, the UNCF was founded with 27 member colleges on April 25, 1944, under the
8 leadership of Dr. Frederick D. Patterson, Mary McLeod Bethune, William J. Trent, and
9 others; and

10 WHEREAS, the mission of the UNCF is to enhance the quality of education by providing
11 financial assistance to deserving students, raising operating funds for member colleges and
12 universities, and increasing access to technology for students and faculty at historically Black
13 colleges and universities; and

14 WHEREAS, as the nation's largest private scholarship provider to students of color, the
15 UNCF provides key support to historically Black colleges and universities as a means to keep

16 tuition lower than comparable schools as well as awards more than \$100 million in
17 scholarships to 10,000+ students at more than 1,100 schools each year across the country,
18 including its prestigious network of 37 historically Black colleges and universities; and

19 WHEREAS, the UNCF has raised \$4.8 billion to help more than 500,000 students earn their
20 college degrees and managed numerous scholarship programs, including the Fund II
21 Foundation UNCF STEM Scholars Program, the UNCF/Koch Scholars Program, the K-12
22 Education Fellowship, and the Frederick Douglass Bicentennial Scholarship Program; and

23 WHEREAS, the UNCF's 37 member colleges and universities have contributed
24 immeasurably to communities throughout the nation and around the world with countless
25 graduates, many of whom were the first in their families to attend college and have continued
26 in their careers to become the top producers in medicine, education, religion, business, law,
27 politics, and community leadership.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
29 recognize the United Negro College Fund on its 80th anniversary, April 25, 2024, and
30 commend its outstanding commitment to providing a quality education for minority and
31 low-income students as well as promoting community leaders to strengthen our global
32 community.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
34 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
35 press.