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House of Representatives Resolution HR1258

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House Resolution 1258

By: Representatives Purcell of the 159th, Day of the 163rd, Stephens of the 164th, Stephens of the 161st, Bryant of the 160th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 75th anniversary of the founding of Armstrong Atlantic State University
2 and inviting President Linda M. Bleicken to be recognized by the House of Representatives;
3 and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Armstrong Junior College was founded by Savannah's City Council on May 27,
5 1935; and

6 WHEREAS, through the leadership of Mayor Thomas Gamble; Savannah High School
7 English teacher, Lowry Axley; *Savannah Morning News* editor and publisher, Herschel V.
8 Jenkins; State Senator David S. Atkinson; the Savannah City Council; and a diverse host of
9 the citizenry of the City of Savannah, the college became an integral part of the City of
10 Savannah; and

11 WHEREAS, through the generosity of Lucy Camp Armstrong Moltz and Lucy Armstrong
12 Johnson, Armstrong House was acquired by the City of Savannah to house the college as a
13 memorial to George Ferguson Armstrong; and

14 WHEREAS, Armstrong Junior College, after experiencing tremendous growth, became the
15 state supported Armstrong State College and subsequently moved to the south side of
16 Savannah to expand its ability to serve the region; and

17 WHEREAS, the institution gained state university status in 1996 becoming Armstrong
18 Atlantic State University, now serving more than 7,500 students in over 100 academic
19 programs through the College of Education, College of Health Professions, College of
20 Liberal Arts, and College of Science and Technology; and

21 WHEREAS, for 75 years the university's students, faculty, and alumni and its academic
22 programs, athletics, and publications have brought state-wide, regional, and national acclaim
23 to the school, the City of Savannah, and the State of Georgia; and

24 WHEREAS, Armstrong Atlantic State University has grown from an original enrollment of
25 175 to a student body of more than 7,500, with more than 86 percent of its students from
26 across the State of Georgia, and has an impact upon the local economy of \$205 million per
27 year; and

28 WHEREAS, since its inception as a city owned junior college, Armstrong Atlantic State
29 University has been a strong partner contributing to the economic health of this state,
30 providing a wide variety of courses and degrees, and preparing graduates to meet the
31 ever-changing work force needs of business and industry in the State of Georgia.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
33 the members of this body honor the memory of Savannah Mayor Thomas Gamble and the
34 citizens of Savannah and Chatham County whose leadership resulted in the establishment of
35 Armstrong Atlantic State University.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body recognize the 75th anniversary
37 of Armstrong Atlantic State University and extend congratulations to the individuals who
38 have left their imprint on the community through their contributions as students, faculty,
39 alumni, staff, administrators, or supporters.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the president of Armstrong Atlantic State University,
41 Linda M. Bleicken, is invited to be recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and
42 time to be specified by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
44 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the president of Armstrong
45 Atlantic State University, Linda M. Bleicken.