

SR014-0304

10 **A SIMPLE RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE REMEBERANCE OF**
20 **THE HON. HOWARD PETERS RAWLINGS, MARYLAND STATE DELEGATE**

20 **WHEREAS:** Howard P. Rawlings was born in Baltimore on March 17, 1937 during our
30 nation’s Great Depression, a time period where few anticipated a lifetime of exemplary
40 achievement from any young person, especially an African American; and,

50 **WHEREAS:** Mr. Rawlings was not deterred in the least by society’s low expectations,
60 making it a point to achieve excellence in all of his undertakings; and,

70 **WHEREAS:** In the General Election of 1978, Mr. Rawlings was elected to serve in the
80 Maryland House of Delegates from Maryland’s 40th Legislative District (Baltimore City), and
90 Delegate Rawlings served with distinction from January 10, 1979 to his passing from cancer
100 on November 14, 2003; and,

110 **WHEREAS:** In 1987, Delegate Rawlings was appointed Vice Chairman of the Maryland
120 House of Delegates Appropriations Committee, which regulates spending to state agencies, and
130 was later appointed committee Chairman in 1992; and,

140 **WHEREAS:** Delegate Rawlings was a graduate of Baltimore City Public Schools, and
150 believed that all children deserve a quality public education and in 1997 became a driving force
160 behind the reorganization of the Baltimore City Pubic School System, using his position and
170 stature in Annapolis to initiate schools systems reform as well as expanding financial support for
180 Maryland’s public schools; and,

190 **WHEREAS:** Delegate Rawlings earned his undergraduate degree (mathematics) from Morgan
200 State University, his Masters degree (mathematics) from the University of Wisconsin, as well as
210 pursuing Ph.D. studies at the University of Maryland; and,

220 **WHEREAS:** He displayed his value of education by becoming a collegiate level mathematics
230 instructor and he never once wavered in his commitment and tireless work on behalf of all
240 Maryland students or in his fervent belief that all students should have access and opportunity to
250 quality higher education; and,

260 **WHEREAS:** Delegate Rawlings was also active on the national level of the Democratic Party,
270 dutifully serving as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention from Maryland during the
280 1988, 1992, 1996, and 2000 election cycles; and,

290 **WHEREAS:** Delegate Rawlings also held many prestigious board memberships serving
300 and/or representing the Great State of Maryland including but not limited to the Maryland
310 Historical Society, Action for the Homeless, the Maryland Education Coalition, the Maryland
320 Low-Income Housing Coalition, the Steering Committee of the Education Commission on the
330 States, the Committee on Postsecondary Education of the National Black Caucus State
340 Legislators; and,

350 **WHEREAS:** Delegate Rawlings was the recipient of numerous awards and honorary degrees
360 including but not limited to a Doctor of Public Service degree from the University of Maryland,
370 Baltimore County (2001), the John R. Hargreaves Distinguished Legislative Fellow Award from
380 the Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement at Salisbury University (2003), and the
390 President’s Medal from the Johns Hopkins University (2003); and,

400 **WHEREAS:** Delegate Rawlings was one of the most powerful and respected legislators in the
410 Maryland General Assembly, and one of the most influential African-American leaders in
420 Maryland, a man who did not seek celebrity or acclaim but whom generations to come will

430 remember as a true and faithful servant who kept the faith of the people he served, and a statesman
440 whose worries were not of personal gain or fortune but worries about the next generation and of
450 children yet unborn.

460 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature hold it's
470 2004 Annual Session in remembrance of Delegate Howard P. Rawlings; and,

480: **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the members of the Maryland Student Legislature strive
490 to fulfill our duties with the same character, integrity, and statesmanship that Delegate Howard P.
500 Rawlings exemplified during his lifetime; and,

510 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** The Maryland Student Legislature thanks the Rawlings family
520 for sharing with the State of Maryland their husband and father, a public servant of such high
520 caliber.

530 **MANDATES:** Dr. Nina Cole Rawlings (wife)
540 Mr. Wendell Rawlings (son)
550 Ms. Lisa Rawlings (daughter)
560 The Hon. Stephanie Rawlings-Blake (daughter; Vice President, Baltimore
570 City Council)
580 The Hon. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor, Maryland
590 The Hon. Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor, Maryland
600 The Hon. Thomas V. "Mike" Miller, Jr., President, Senate
610 The Hon. Michael E. Busch, Speaker, House of Delegates

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