

House Resolution 579

By: Representative Hudson of the 124th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Head Coach Luther Welsh of the Thomson High School football team on the
2 occasion of his 300th win; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Coach Welsh was born in Bishopville, South Carolina, in 1932, and graduated
4 from high school in Maysville, South Carolina, in 1951, where he played football and
5 baseball among other activities; and

6 WHEREAS, Coach Welsh went on to attend and graduate from Presbyterian College in
7 Clinton, South Carolina, in 1955; and

8 WHEREAS, Coach Welsh began his coaching career at Warrenton High School in
9 Warrenton, Georgia, in 1955 with a 7-4 season; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1984, Coach Welsh became head coach of Thomson High School, where he
11 coached for the next seven years, and won the AAA state championship with a perfect 15-0
12 season in his first year; and

13 WHEREAS, Coach Welsh was named Teacher of the Year and STAR Teacher in McDuffie
14 County after winning another AAA state championship in 1985 and maintaining a 29-0-1
15 record through two seasons at Thomson High School; and

16 WHEREAS, Coach Welsh returned for his second tenure at Thomson in 1999 and led the
17 Bulldogs to another Region 3 Class AAA championship; and

18 WHEREAS, in 2002, Coach Welsh was named the Class AAAA Coach of the Year by the
19 *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* after the Bulldogs took the Class AAAA State Championship
20 with a 15-0 season; and

1 WHEREAS, he was named the Atlanta Touchdown Club Coach of the Year and the NFL
2 High School Coach of the Year and received the Bob Waters Award from Presbyterian
3 College for distinguished athletic alumni; and

4 WHEREAS, in 2005, Coach Welsh's Bulldogs won their fourth consecutive regional
5 championship, a feat that has only been accomplished once before in school history; and

6 WHEREAS, Coach Welsh holds the state record for coaching the most games, and with 300
7 career wins, he ranks as the third most winning active coach in Georgia and the eighth most
8 winning coach in the history of Georgia high school football; and

9 WHEREAS, Coach Welsh has been credited with helping to establish a sense of identity,
10 tradition, and community in Thomson and has contributed to the development of countless
11 student athletes, many of whom have gone on to play college football; and

12 WHEREAS, Coach Welsh is a devoted husband to his wife, Mrs. Anne Welsh, with whom
13 he has shared more than four wonderful decades of marriage; a father of two; and a beloved
14 grandfather to three.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
16 members of this body join in commending Coach Luther Welsh for his many years of
17 dedicated service to the students of Thomson High School, congratulate him on the occasion
18 of his 300th win, and extend to him their sincerest best wishes for his future health and
19 success.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
21 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Coach Luther Welsh.