

House Resolution 319

By: Representatives Abdul-Salaam of the 74th, Brooks of the 63rd, Heckstall of the 62nd, Jordan of the 77th, Frazier of the 123rd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge Free
2 Accepted Ancient Yorkrite Masons, Prince Hall Origin National Compact, Jurisdiction of
3 Georgia, and its affiliate, Smooth Ashlar Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star, and inviting
4 their membership to appear before the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, the Most Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge Free Accepted Ancient
6 Yorkrite Masons, Prince Hall Origin National Compact, Jurisdiction of Georgia, and its
7 affiliate, Smooth Ashlar Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star, were founded September 27,
8 1865, and is one of the oldest formally organized African American charitable organizations
9 in Georgia and will be celebrating their 144th Grand Lodge Session this year in Augusta; and

10 WHEREAS, the Master Masons and Order of Eastern Star are a Masonic fraternity of men
11 and women dedicated to charity, truth, and loving kindness; they teach lessons of fidelity,
12 loyalty, and faith; spread cements of brotherly and sisterly love throughout the material of
13 realm; and work diligently towards gaining a greater understanding of God's Holy Bible; and

14 WHEREAS, a Master Builder is one who is qualified by intellect and training in skills and
15 ability to do constructive architectural work of symmetrical and perfect order in the highest
16 spiritual sense, the term applied to the great architecture of the universe; Masons are required
17 to prepare materials for the super structure of moral and spiritual characteristics to which
18 they labor and are devoted to endeavors which will pass the test of the Great Master Builder
19 of Heaven; and

20 WHEREAS, local Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge and Order of Eastern Star Chapters select
21 their own charities and places of service in their own communities; we are indeed honored
22 to have them provide invaluable service to the State of Georgia through their charitable work,
23 which includes support of breast cancer survivors through the American Cancer Society's
24 "Sisters by Choice" program; support for the Greenbriar Children's Orphanage in Savannah
25 and the Annual Heart Walk sponsored by the American Heart Association; purchase of shoes

26 for needy children at Avondale High School; provide volunteers for the annual Hosea
27 Williams Feed the Hungry Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner; collect and donate coats and
28 warm clothing for the NAACP; support several convalescent homes and rehabilitation
29 facilities throughout the state; provide volunteers at the Buckhead Nursing Home and the
30 Parkview Nursing Home; make cash donations to support Morris Brown College; provide
31 home cooked full-course meals every month at the Battered Women's Homeless Women
32 Shelter in Atlanta; sponsor the annual Marines Toys-for-Tots; provide graduation
33 scholarships to students throughout the state; provide sustained support to widows; and
34 support countless youth programs, mentorship programs, senior citizen programs, and other
35 civic projects throughout the State of Georgia; and

36 WHEREAS, the Honorable Clarence Hayes, Jr., 33rd Degree Grand Master, provides
37 capable and honorable leadership, wisdom, and inspiration to all the brothers of the Most
38 Worshipful Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge Free Accepted Ancient Yorkrite Masons, Prince
39 Hall Origin, National Compact, Jurisdiction of Georgia; and

40 WHEREAS, the Honorable Carolyn K. Trammell, Grand Worthy Matron, provides capable
41 and honorable leadership, wisdom, and inspiration to all the Sisters of the Smooth Ashlar
42 Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, Jurisdiction of the State of Georgia.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
44 the members of this body commend Honorable Clarence Hayes, Jr., 33rd Degree Grand
45 Master, the Honorable Carolyn K. Trammell, Grand Worthy Matron, and the state officers
46 and members of the Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge for their numerous outstanding
47 contributions to our community, to the state of Georgia, and the United States of America.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the officers and members of the Smooth Ashlar Grand
49 Lodge and the Smooth Ashlar Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star are invited to appear
50 before the House of Representatives at a date and time to be fixed by the Speaker of the
51 House for the purpose of being recognized by the House and receiving an appropriate copy
52 of this resolution.