

House Resolution 1261

By: Representative Martin of the 47<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mr. Gordon Beckham and inviting him to be recognized by  
2 the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is proud to call Mr. Gordon Beckham one of the finest  
4 citizens, athletes, and humanitarians this state has ever produced; and

5 WHEREAS, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, Mr. Beckham attended The Westminster School  
6 where he was a standout athlete, leading the football and baseball teams to victorious  
7 seasons; and

8 WHEREAS, upon his graduation from high school, Mr. Beckham began his collegiate career  
9 with the University of Georgia baseball team, anchoring the team at shortstop for three years  
10 and earning recognition as All-American and SEC Player of the Year; and

11 WHEREAS, he led the Bulldogs during the 2008 College World Series, where the team  
12 placed second in the nation; and

13 WHEREAS, after his junior year, Mr. Beckham was drafted by the Chicago White Sox and  
14 was called up to the majors on June 3, 2009, after a short stint playing for the team's minor  
15 league program; and

16 WHEREAS, he led the rookie class of 2009, with an impressive batting average of .270 and  
17 racking up 14 home runs and 63 RBIs; and

18 WHEREAS, after the completion of his first season in Major League Baseball, Mr. Beckham  
19 was voted the American League Rookie of the Year by the Major League Baseball Players  
20 Association, a prestigious title given after a vote of all players in the league; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Beckham was named the 2009 American Rookie of the Year by *Sporting*  
22 *News*; and

23 WHEREAS, off the field, Mr. Beckham devotes his time to improving the lives of others  
24 with his work with the National Parkinson's Foundation and the Children's Hospital of  
25 Illinois; and

26 WHEREAS, through his unwavering generosity and compassion in helping his fellow man  
27 and his dedication and determination to the sport of baseball, Mr. Beckham serves as an  
28 extraordinary role model for our youth and is a shining example to all.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
30 the members of this body commend Mr. Gordon Beckham for his invaluable community  
31 involvement, congratulate him on his outstanding rookie season in the major leagues, and  
32 invite him to be recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time to be  
33 designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Gordon Beckham.