

## House Resolution 343

By: Representatives Martin of the 49<sup>th</sup>, Ralston of the 7<sup>th</sup>, Jones of the 47<sup>th</sup>, Duncan of the 26<sup>th</sup>, Roberts of the 155<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending John Andrew Smoltz for his contributions to the State of Georgia; recognizing  
2 his outstanding achievements in the sport of baseball; and inviting him to be recognized by  
3 the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, John Andrew Smoltz, born May 15, 1967, and nicknamed "Smoltzie," is an  
5 American former baseball pitcher and active sportscaster who played 21 seasons in Major  
6 League Baseball (MLB), garnered eight All-Star selections and the National League Cy  
7 Young Award in 1996, and elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2015, his first year of  
8 eligibility; and

9 WHEREAS, he is the only pitcher in major league history to top both 200 wins and 150  
10 saves; in 2008, he became the 16th member of the 3,000 strikeout club; and

11 WHEREAS, John Smoltz was an All-State baseball and basketball player at Waverly High  
12 School in Lansing, Michigan, before the Detroit Tigers drafted him, and on August 12, 1987,  
13 he was traded to the Atlanta Braves; and

14 WHEREAS, in the 1996 season, he went 24-8 with a 2.94 ERA and 276 strikeouts, including  
15 winning a franchise record 14 straight decisions, won the National League Cy Young with  
16 26 of the 28 first-place votes, and was awarded a Silver Slugger Award for his batting; and

17 WHEREAS, his career accomplishments include being elected to the National Baseball Hall  
18 of Fame on 82.9 percent of the vote in January, 2015, being named an eight-time All-Star  
19 and the National League Championship Series MVP in 1992, holding the Atlanta Braves  
20 record for most wins in a season, leading the Major Leagues in strikeouts in 1996 with 276,  
21 leading the national league in win percentage in 1996, winning the National League Rolaids  
22 Relief Man of the Year Award in 2002, holding the Braves record for most saves in a season  
23 in 2002 with 55, holding the Braves record for most strikeouts in a career with 3,011,  
24 receiving the Branch Rickey Award for exceptional community service in 2007, being the

25 only MLB pitcher with more than one post-season stolen base, and incurring 15 post-season  
26 wins; and

27 WHEREAS, on May 16, 2009, Smoltz married the former Kathryn Darden at his home with  
28 70 friends and family in attendance; and

29 WHEREAS, Smoltz is a born-again Christian, founded and has served as Chairman of the  
30 Board at Alpharetta-based King's Ridge Christian School, and is a member of the  
31 Presbyterian Church in America.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
33 the members of this body commend John Andrew Smoltz for his contributions to the State  
34 of Georgia, recognize his outstanding achievements in the sport of baseball, and invite him  
35 to be recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the  
36 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
38 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to John  
39 Andrew Smoltz.