

House Resolution 711

By: Representative Marin of the 96th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the contributions of Georgia Haitian Americans and
2 recognizing March 31, 2015, as Georgia Haitian Americans Legislative Day at the state
3 capitol; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is fortunate to be home to more than 13,000 residents of
5 Haitian descent, and that number is annually increasing; and

6 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is fifth in the nation for Haitian immigrant settlement,
7 according to the Center for Immigration Studies; and

8 WHEREAS, the Georgia Haitian American Association continues to establish uplifting
9 events, partners with other organizations, and provides essential services to the community;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, the association seeks to establish a community center that would be a hub to
12 those who wish to connect with the Haitian community in Georgia, Haiti, and elsewhere and
13 to provide transitional and other services in the community; and

14 WHEREAS, the association prides itself as the only organization in the community providing
15 services such as immigration, translation of documents, referrals, and placement assistance;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, the Georgia Haitian American Association creates events such as the January
18 12th Memorial Service and the May 18th Flag Day celebration and works in collaboration
19 with other organizations for the January 1st Independence Day Celebration; and

20 WHEREAS, the association also provides financial, educational, and social support to the
21 JP Orphanage ministry in the city of Hinche, Haiti; and

22 WHEREAS, the Georgia Haitian American Association's vision is to have a self-sufficient
23 community; a Georgia with a Haitian community that is vibrant, engaged, and focused on
24 reaching greater heights with access to resources such as law enforcement and legislation;
25 community with a welcoming center that can assist all Haitians with their transitional needs;
26 and be a gateway to connect with other communities and share cultures; and

27 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia takes pride in its cultural diversity and welcomes the
28 opportunity to honor our Haitian American residents for their lasting, expanding imprint
29 upon our state.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body recognize and commend the individual and collective contributions
32 of Georgia Haitian Americans to the State of Georgia and to the United States of America
33 and recognize March 31, 2015, as Georgia Haitian Americans Legislative Day the state
34 capitol.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
37 Georgia Haitian Americans Association Legislative Steering Committee.