

House Resolution 1701

By: Representatives Howard of the 124th, Prince of the 127th, Sims of the 123rd, and Smith of the 125th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Robetta D. McKenzie upon the grand occasion of her retirement; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Robetta D. McKenzie has served the Augusta-Richmond County community
4 tirelessly for the past 41 years to improve the lives of children and families; and

5 WHEREAS, she worked diligently in the Richmond County School System as a high school
6 teacher, principal, and counselor and as coordinator of quarter system and director of
7 guidance and testing from 1974-1994; and

8 WHEREAS, while working with the Richmond County School System, Dr. McKenzie
9 served as the volunteer director of the Richmond County Family Connection, a two-year
10 initiative begun by Governor Zell Miller in response to Georgia's dismal ranking and
11 designed to coordinate services for the educational, social, economic, and physical
12 well-being of Georgia's youngest, most vulnerable citizens; and

13 WHEREAS, during this time, she coordinated the work of the Family Connection and the
14 Augusta Coalition for Children and Youth, in collaboration with the Richmond County
15 School System, to ensure needed services for children and families were provided in the
16 community; and

17 WHEREAS, upon her retirement from the Richmond County School System in 1994, she
18 became the full-time director of the Richmond County Family Connection, now known as
19 the Augusta Partnership for Children, Inc.; and

20 WHEREAS, through her vision, leadership, determination, and commitment to engage
21 community agencies and organizations in working collaboratively to improve the lives of
22 children and families through systems change efforts and effective programming, there are

23 now more than 120 agencies and organizations representing all sectors of the community,
24 along with private citizens, engaged in this effort; and

25 WHEREAS, her facilitation of this collaborative effort has resulted in improvements within
26 Augusta-Richmond County in rates associated with high school graduation, enrollment in
27 early childhood education programs, teen pregnancy, juvenile arrests, substance use among
28 youth, child abuse, infant mortality, low birth weight, and poverty; and

29 WHEREAS, these same efforts have made a positive impact on the aforementioned
30 indicators for the State of Georgia; and

31 WHEREAS, Robetta D. McKenzie is retiring on June 30, 2016, and it is abundantly fitting
32 and proper that she be recognized for her many years of valuable service and the many
33 achievements resulting from her work.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
35 the members of this body recognize Robetta D. McKenzie upon the grand occasion of her
36 retirement and congratulate her for a job well done on behalf of children and families in
37 Augusta-Richmond County and the State of Georgia.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
39 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
40 Robetta D. McKenzie.