

## House Resolution 1779

By: Representatives Benton of the 31<sup>st</sup> and Quick of the 117<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating former Commerce Middle School head football coach Jimmy Stephenson for  
2 receiving the J.B. Hawkins Humanitarian Award at the 2016 Georgia Sports Hall of Fame  
3 induction; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Jimmy Stephenson coached football at Commerce Middle School for over 40  
5 years, serving as a positive role model for countless young students and athletes, and may  
6 have had one of the longest middle school coaching careers in the state or even the country;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Coach Stephenson was honored along with Erk Russell Spirit Award winner  
9 Morris Lupton and the 2016 Hall of Fame Class that included Chipper Jones, Hines Ward,  
10 Michael Glenn, Phil Schaefer, Patricia Roberts, Luther Welsh, Jimmy Robinson, and Glenn  
11 Wilkes; and

12 WHEREAS, the J.B. Hawkins Humanitarian Award, created to honor J.B. Hawkins, one of  
13 the greatest legendary coaches of high school basketball in state history and a heralded  
14 community leader and humanitarian, is given in recognition of an individual who has made  
15 significant contributions to youth sports in Georgia; and

16 WHEREAS, of receiving the award, Coach Stephenson says, "You figure every high school  
17 in the state of Georgia probably nominates somebody. So, to win this thing is truly special";  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the amazing feat of this distinguished and  
20 extraordinary individual be appropriately recognized.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
22 the members of this body congratulate former Commerce Middle School head football coach  
23 Jimmy Stephenson for receiving the J.B. Hawkins Humanitarian Award at the 2016 Georgia

24 Sports Hall of Fame induction and extend to him their most sincere best wishes for success  
25 in the future.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
27 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to  
28 Coach Jimmy Stephenson.