

## House Resolution 327

By: Representatives Howard of the 124<sup>th</sup>, Prince of the 127<sup>th</sup>, Nelson of the 125<sup>th</sup>, and Frazier of the 126<sup>th</sup>

## 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 42 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 recently retired on January 5, 2017, and it is abundantly  
32 fitting 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.