

House Resolution 1232

By: Representative Houston of the 170th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Cook County Schools and the Baby Hornets program; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Cook County Schools received an inaugural 2019 Leading Edge Award for its
4 Baby Hornets program; and

5 WHEREAS, this state-level award recognizes the innovation and community spirit of Cook
6 County Schools in creating partnerships with Cook County Family Connection and
7 collaborative partners to implement new strategies to improve early education; and

8 WHEREAS, this new program reaches out to underserved families across Cook County and
9 engages children and parents in the early learning and pre-kindergarten pipeline; and

10 WHEREAS, the Baby Hornets Initiative bridges a critical gap by creating educational and
11 social connections for families that have children aged 0-4 years who are not enrolled in
12 quality preschool programs; and

13 WHEREAS, children whose parents read them five books a day enter kindergarten having
14 heard about 1.4 million more words than children who were never read to; and

15 WHEREAS, the million word gap could be one key in explaining differences in vocabulary
16 and reading development; and

17 WHEREAS, the Baby Hornets program will follow the children through their high school
18 graduation; and

19 WHEREAS, Cook County School Superintendent Dr. Tim Dixon has made contact with
20 many families in the community before their children enter the school system and has
21 educated the families about the importance of providing an early learning environment; and

22 WHEREAS, to encourage reading at home and to ensure that children are meeting their
23 milestones, the Baby Hornets program has reached out to parents with very young children
24 to provide them with storybooks; and

25 WHEREAS, school systems across the State of Georgia want to duplicate the Baby Hornets
26 program to enhance early childhood literacy efforts in their own communities.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
28 the members of this body recognize and commend Cook County Schools and the Baby
29 Hornets program for their past, present, and future work on behalf of children, youth, and
30 their families in this state.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
32 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Cook
33 County Schools.