

House Resolution 38

By: Representatives Hilton of the 48th, Beckles of the 96th, Reeves of the 99th, Efstration of the 104th, Martinez of the 111th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Mary Kay Murphy for a lifetime of distinguished service to education and
2 community; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mary Kay Murphy has dedicated her life to the pursuit of excellence in
4 education, earning a PhD in education administration from Georgia State University, a
5 master's degree in education and English from Emory University, and a Bachelor of Arts in
6 English and philosophy from Loretto Heights College; and

7 WHEREAS, Mary Kay Murphy has exemplified an outstanding commitment to the teaching
8 profession, with seven years of experience as a public-school teacher in Georgia and
9 California, inspiring students in grades 9 through 12; and

10 WHEREAS, she has played a pivotal role in the advancement of educational institutions
11 through her extraordinary career in private fundraising, securing over \$475 million in support
12 of academic programs, faculty research, and campus infrastructure, thereby enhancing
13 educational opportunities for countless students; and

14 WHEREAS, Mary Kay Murphy has shown exemplary dedication to her community, serving
15 as a volunteer teacher at Hopewell Baptist Church, a longtime member of Mary Our Queen

16 Catholic Church, and as President of the Kiwanis Club of Atlanta, becoming the first woman
17 to hold that office in 80 years; and

18 WHEREAS, her leadership has significantly impacted public education as an elected member
19 of the Gwinnett County School Board for over two decades, during which time she was
20 elected chairman five times and vice chairman five times, ensuring the continued growth and
21 success of the district; and

22 WHEREAS, Mary Kay Murphy has extended her service beyond education, contributing as
23 a civilian representative to the National Security Seminar at the United States Army War
24 College and as a member of numerous civic organizations, including Leadership Atlanta and
25 the Development Committee of the Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta; and

26 WHEREAS, her exceptional contributions have been recognized through numerous
27 prestigious awards, including the Scott Hudgens Distinguished Citizen Award, Paul Duke
28 Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce Award for Service
29 in Public Education; and

30 WHEREAS, Mary Kay Murphy alongside her husband, Michael C. Murphy, a distinguished
31 retired attorney and civic leader, has raised three daughters and is a proud grandparent of
32 two, further demonstrating her dedication to family and community; and

33 WHEREAS, Mary Kay Murphy's lifetime of unwavering commitment to education, civic
34 leadership, and community service will leave a lasting legacy, and she stands as a beacon of
35 inspiration for future generations.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 the members of this body honor Mary Kay Murphy for her lifetime commitment to education
38 and community service as well as extend the most sincere best wishes for continued health
39 and happiness.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
41 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Mary
42 Kay Murphy.