

House Resolution 339

By: Representatives Davis of the 87th, Jones of the 91st, Jackson of the 64th, Evans of the 83rd, and Smyre of the 135th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mothers Raising Sons, Inc., and recognizing March 20, 2019, as Mothers
2 Raising Sons Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mothers Raising Sons, Inc., is a public service organization founded on
4 December 29, 1999, by Lisa Norwood, who was, at the time, a single mother raising three
5 sons without family in the metro Atlanta area; and

6 WHEREAS, the original visionary members are Lisa Norwood, Tequon Norwood, Terrance
7 Smith, Thaddaeus Smith, Erric Smith, James Edward "Billy" McKinney, and Ernie Jones;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Mothers Raising Sons, Inc., has received numerous awards, including the
10 DOVE Award from Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, and College Park
11 Alumni Chapter Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and the Georgia Grand Master Mason
12 Organization of the Year; and

13 WHEREAS, participants have illustrated life skills needed to graduate from high school and
14 college and lead prosperous lives; male participants avoided entering the juvenile justice
15 system, avoided dependency on government assistance, and did not become teen fathers; and

16 WHEREAS, only weeks after its founding, Mothers Raising Sons, Inc., was sponsored by
17 an all-male academy in DeKalb County for separate support group meetings to educate single
18 mothers and sons for open dialogue of their issues with feedback from positive male role
19 models; and

20 WHEREAS, Mothers Raising Sons, Inc., has served over 1,200 participants in Georgia,
21 North Carolina, and South Carolina, with the implementation of services to date including:
22 Separate Support Group Meetings for both females (mothers, great-grandmothers, aunts, and
23 foster care guardians) raising males, One on One Parenting Classes, All Boys Summer Camp,

24 Community Service Hours, Conferences, Workshops, Seminars (for households), Referral
25 Services, Reality Actions Works (R.A.W.), Employability, Activities for Family Unity and
26 Male Bonding, and Educated Royalty Tutoring Services (SMART: Science, Math, Art,
27 Reading, Technology); and

28 WHEREAS, numerous individuals, businesses, and organizations have contributed to the
29 successful legacy of Mothers Raising Sons, Inc., in loving service to endangered species
30 from the extinction of our boys to men.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body commend Mothers Raising Sons, Inc., for its continued
33 commitment to public service and recognize March 20, 2019, as Mothers Raising Sons Day
34 at the state capitol.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to
37 Mothers Raising Sons, Inc.