

House Resolution 1789

By: Representatives Hugley of the 136th, Buckner of the 137th, Smyre of the 135th, Smith of the 134th, and Pezold of the 133rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the smart, talented second graders of Forrest Road Elementary School in
2 Columbus, Georgia, for their astronomy findings; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on April 21, 2015, the students of Ms. Bethany Getz's second grade class
4 remotely controlled a professional telescope and were able to photograph images of a solar
5 eruption from their classroom, and Ms. Getz used this lesson to teach her second graders
6 about stars and the patterns of the sun and moon; and

7 WHEREAS, the images, compiled together in a time-lapse video, were uploaded onto
8 spaceweather.com, and received over 20,000 views within a matter of weeks; and

9 WHEREAS, the students were guided by Mr. Michael Johnson, the external programs
10 coordinator at Columbus State University's Coca Cola Space Science Center, who showed
11 the children how to use the center's Real-time Interactive Solar Observatory, an educational
12 outreach program that allows teachers to use online telescope lessons in order to teach
13 science standards, in order to capture the images of the eruption; and

14 WHEREAS, the students took 20 professional-grade pictures of the solar eruption within the
15 span of one hour, and the images were converted into a 28 second video; and

16 WHEREAS, the solar eruption in question reached nearly 80,000 miles into space, which is
17 the length equivalent to stacking ten planet Earths on top of each other, and the solar eruption
18 has been nicknamed "Getz's Dragon," in the second graders' honor; and

19 WHEREAS, in 2015, Muscogee County School District's partnership with Columbus State
20 University's Coca Cola Space Science Center allowed for the Center to visit all 32 of
21 Muscogee County School District's elementary schools, allowing hundreds of children to
22 participate in STEM activities; and

23 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper to recognize and congratulate these students
24 for their outstanding work and overall tremendous contribution to science.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
26 the members of this body commend the smart, talented second graders of Forrest Road
27 Elementary School in Columbus, Georgia, for their astronomy findings.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
29 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
30 Forrest Road Elementary School.