

## House Resolution 872

By: Representatives Smith of the 41<sup>st</sup> and Thomas of the 39<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing James C. Birdsong, Jr., on receiving the 2019 Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime  
2 Achievement Award; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, James C. Birdsong, Jr., a resident of Cobb County, will receive the 2019 Albert  
4 Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award from Marquis Who's Who, honoring his  
5 accomplishments in the gospel music industry, entertainment arena, and in leadership and  
6 mentorship for our youth; and

7 WHEREAS, the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award is an honor reserved  
8 for biographees who have demonstrated leadership, excellence, and longevity within their  
9 respective industries and professions; and

10 WHEREAS, a two-time listee in Marquis Who's Who in America in 2004 and 2019, Mr.  
11 Birdsong is a member of the famed Birdsong family that consists of his famous cousins,  
12 world-renowned R&B legend Cindy Birdsong, former NBA four-time All-Star basketball  
13 player Otis Birdsong, and the late Edwin Birdsong, a legendary keyboardist and Grammy  
14 Award winner whose works have been sampled by today's hip-hop artists; and

15 WHEREAS, a native of Richmond, California, Mr. Birdsong attended Fairfield High School  
16 in Fairfield, California, and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Biblical education at  
17 Beulah Heights University in Atlanta; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Birdsong has received numerous awards, accolades, and proclamations  
19 recognizing his contributions in the gospel music industry, leadership, and record of public  
20 service in the community as a mentor and role model to our nation's youth, and has been  
21 added to the Wall of Tolerance by the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery,  
22 Alabama; and

23 WHEREAS, he has been featured on television, radio, and print outlets nationwide and is the  
24 author of *The Best Is Yet to Come: A Testimony of One Young Man's Redemption*, an  
25 autobiography that continues to receive positive reviews nationally; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Birdsong is in the process of establishing the James C. Birdsong, Jr.,  
27 Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Atlanta, with the mission and goals of  
28 mentoring today's African American youth in music and the arts throughout the United  
29 States.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
31 the members of this body recognize James C. Birdsong, Jr., for receiving the 2019 Albert  
32 Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award, for his contributions in the gospel music  
33 industry, and for his leadership in inspiring our youth to fulfill their potential in life.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to James  
36 C. Birdsong, Jr.