

House Resolution 937

By: Representatives Wilkerson of the 38th, Smith of the 41st, Morgan of the 39th, Evans of the 42nd, and Setzler of the 35th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Birney Elementary School on being the 2013 Helen Ruffin
2 Reading Bowl State Champions; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl was started by a DeKalb County media
4 specialist, Helen Ruffin, in order to motivate students at her school to read more, and the
5 academic competition consists of high school, middle school, and elementary school students
6 in a game show setting using factual knowledge about selected books to claim victory; and

7 WHEREAS, the team, composed of Emmanuel Ogueri, Gregory Gosha, David Gutierrez,
8 Kevin Morales, Melissa Tapia, Surina Narine, Nyjha Dean, and Isela Zavala, and the
9 coaches, Scott Custance, Kaylee Custance, and Jennifer Itnyre, started at the Cobb County
10 competition, defeating 22 schools before moving on to the West Region tournament held at
11 West Georgia University, where they defeated eight other teams; and

12 WHEREAS, at the Division I competition, this magnificent team scored enough points to
13 win and go to the State Finals at the University of Georgia, competing against Lyman Hall
14 Elementary School; and after two challenging rounds, the Birney Elementary School team
15 claimed victory and became the 2013 Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl State Champions; and

16 WHEREAS, they are the first Cobb elementary school to win the state finals, and the team
17 and coaches provided energy, enthusiasm, and pride for their school and community; and

18 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia looks with great anticipation toward the future of these
19 bright and promising young citizens, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that the
20 outstanding accomplishments of this remarkable team and its coaches are appropriately
21 recognized.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
23 the members of this body recognize and commend Birney Elementary School on being the

24 2013 Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl State Champions and extend to them their most sincere
25 best wishes for future success.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
27 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Birney Elementary School.