

Senate Resolution 639

By: Senator Jackson of the 2nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Parent University and its executive director, Michael O'Neal;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, studies show that when parents are involved in their child's education, the
4 student has higher achievement regardless of the family's socioeconomic status, ethnic
5 background, or parents' education level; and

6 WHEREAS, for more than 20 years, Parent University has been a community collaborative
7 in Savannah-Chatham County that supports families by encouraging parent involvement and
8 participation in their children's education; and

9 WHEREAS, established in 2000 in collaboration with Savannah-Chatham County Public
10 Schools, Parent University is a community based volunteer and nonprofit organization with
11 the goal of forming a bridge between the community and schools; and

12 WHEREAS, over 5,000 to 6,000 unduplicated parents have benefitted from Parent
13 University; and

14 WHEREAS, objectives of Parent University include training parents to work with schools
15 to create paths for student achievement and providing parents with the necessary support,
16 guidance, and nurturing to ensure success for the entire family; and

17 WHEREAS, schools with active and involved parents who are committed to their children's
18 education also have high teacher morale and hold a place of esteem with the surrounding
19 community; and

20 WHEREAS, with course topics like how to help children develop better reading skills, how
21 to handle emotions, how to deal with grief, how to prepare children for standardized tests,
22 and how to talk with kids about the importance of abstinence, Parent University is helping

23 to create more successful students who will be prepared for life beyond the classroom
24 emotionally, socially, and academically; and

25 WHEREAS, the great success of Parent University cannot be attributed only to the many
26 families dedicated to providing their children with the best education, but also to the teachers
27 and staff who volunteer their time to the program and the Savannah-Chatham County school
28 board members who support the goals and objectives of Parent University.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
30 recognize and commend the great work and achievements of Parent University, its executive
31 director, Michael O'Neal, the volunteer teachers and staff, the graduating families, and the
32 Savannah-Chatham County Public School System for uplifting Georgia students and
33 promising them a bright future.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
35 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the executive director of Parent
36 University, Michael O'Neal.