

House Resolution 537

By: Representatives Beasley-Teague of the 65th, Jackson of the 64th, Quick of the 117th, Paris of the 142nd, and Stephens of the 165th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing February, 2017, as Girls Empowerment Month; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Trinity Girls Network, founded in July, 2016, by Outstanding Georgia Citizen
3 Award winner, Dr. Jacqueline Mohair, strives to empower girls and young women using a
4 three-stemmed approach: ending violence against girls and women; preparing girls for
5 success, and providing opportunity through education; and
- 6 WHEREAS, globally, 65 million girls and young women are not in school, 31 million girls
7 of primary school age are not in school, and 33 million fewer girls than boys attend primary
8 school; sadly, 17 million of these girls will never attend school in their lifetimes; and
- 9 WHEREAS, just over 120 million young people between the ages of 15 and 24 cannot read
10 or write, 61 percent of this group being women; and
- 11 WHEREAS, half of the children who are not in school live in conflict-ridden areas and girls
12 make up 55 percent of this total; and
- 13 WHEREAS, nearly 70 million children worldwide do not have access to a basic education;
14 more than half are girls and evidence shows that educating a girl can break a cycle of poverty
15 in just one generation; and
- 16 WHEREAS, girls who get an education marry later, have fewer children, earn higher wages,
17 and support healthier and more prosperous families, and the empowerment of and investment
18 in girls are key factors in breaking the cycle of discrimination and violence and instrumental
19 in promoting and protecting the full and effective enjoyment of their human rights; and
- 20 WHEREAS, girls with an extra year of education can earn 20 percent more as an adult and
21 a child born to a mother who can read and write is 50 percent more likely to survive past the

22 age of five; moreover, educated mothers are more than twice as likely to send their children
23 to school; and

24 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is blessed with hundreds of gifted girls and young women
25 whose full potential has yet to be fostered and developed; and

26 WHEREAS, education is the key to the empowerment of this state's girls and young women,
27 fostering the development of their minds and academic and leadership skills and playing a
28 vital role in shaping tomorrow's leaders.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body recognize February, 2017, as Girls Empowerment Month.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
32 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
33 Trinity Girls Network.