

House Resolution 333

By: Representatives Cannon of the 58th, Shannon of the 84th, Park of the 101st, Drenner of the 85th, and Lim of the 99th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Charles Stephens; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Charles Stephens is a highly respected writer, critical thinker, activist, and
3 founder of The Counter Narrative Project, an initiative that engages in advocacy around
4 issues impacting Black gay men; and

5 WHEREAS, after co-founding Black Out, the first Black LGBTQ+ student organization at
6 Georgia State University, he attended meetings with Second Sunday and My Brother's
7 Keeper and joined various advisory boards and committees; and

8 WHEREAS, from 2006 to 2011, Charles ran The Deeper Love Project, an HIV prevention
9 program for Black gay and bisexual men in Atlanta, and in 2011, he coordinated From
10 Where I Stand for AID Atlanta, a social marketing campaign targeting young Black gay men;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, he has spent innumerable hours of his time and energy dedicated to community
13 building and sexual health work, receiving the Georgia State University College of Arts and
14 Sciences Outstanding Alumni Award and the Gentleman's Foundation Gentleman of the Year
15 Award in honor of his contributions; and

16 WHEREAS, a prolific author, his writings have appeared in the *Atlanta*
17 *Journal-Constitution*, *Atlanta Magazine*, *Creative Loafing*, and *The Advocate*; and

18 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
19 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body recognize and commend Charles Stephens for his dedicated civic
22 service and extend the most sincere best wishes for continued health and happiness.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
24 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
25 Charles Stephens.