

House Resolution 49

By: Representatives Smyre of the 135th, Ralston of the 7th, O'Neal of the 146th, Abrams of the 89th, Gardner of the 57th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Atlanta Hawks and inviting them to be recognized by the House of
2 Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Atlanta Hawks have represented the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia
4 with honor in their sportsmanship and pursuit of excellence on the basketball court, and with
5 distinction as a symbol around the nation and the world; and

6 WHEREAS, the Hawks have been a part of the Atlanta Sports Family since 1968, when they
7 moved to Georgia from St. Louis just ten years after winning the franchise's only title; and

8 WHEREAS, the Atlanta Hawks provide an economic boost for the City of Atlanta and the
9 State of Georgia, and the team is a major part of the sporting events that have generated \$1.8
10 billion in economic impact to the metro area in the last ten years; and

11 WHEREAS, Phillips Arena is the number one sports and entertainment venue in the
12 southeastern United States, home to nearly two million visitors and fans every year, hosts of
13 concerts and events with global stars and corporations, and an anchor to Atlanta's Central
14 Business District; and

15 WHEREAS, we thank Chief Executive Officer Steve Koonin for his leadership, hard work,
16 and commitment to keeping the Atlanta Hawks in Atlanta, Georgia; and

17 WHEREAS, Dominique Wilkins, the all-time leading scorer in Hawks history and a member
18 of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, has been a positive role model for the
19 sport and a productive member of his community with local and national charity endeavors,
20 including his efforts on diabetes prevention and increased awareness of the disease, testifying
21 before Congress on the need for a national strategy to help reduce diabetes and supporting
22 the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation; and

23 WHEREAS, the Atlanta Hawks will surely continue to be successful on the basketball court
24 as well as be a positive influence on their communities and the economy of the City of
25 Atlanta and the State of Georgia.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
27 the members of this body commend the Atlanta Hawks, CEO Steve Koonin, Coach Mike
28 Budenholzer, Hall of Fame Member Dominique Wilkins, and Phillips Arena for their
29 entertainment, citizenship, and economic impact on the City of Atlanta and the State of
30 Georgia and invite them to be recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time
31 to be determined by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
34 Atlanta Hawks.