

House Resolution 1257

By: Representatives Henson of the 55th, Drenner of the 57th, Watson of the 60th, Post 2, Chambers of the 53rd, and Mangham of the 62nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Board of Education of DeKalb County to adjust attendance boundaries, reassess
2 comprehensive attendance zone planning, and reassess school construction; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the first and primary consideration of the Board of Education of DeKalb County
5 should be to ensure the physical safety and well-being of the students; and

6 WHEREAS, the further students have to travel to reach the school they are assigned, whether
7 by vehicle or on foot, the greater the risk of their being involved in an accident and injured
8 or killed enroute; and

9 WHEREAS, many DeKalb County parents and students contend that current feeder routes
10 and school attendance zones lack coherence of pattern and logic; and

11 WHEREAS, the current attendance zones are longstanding and do not reflect the changes
12 made as a result of the construction of new and planned schools; and

13 WHEREAS, the construction of one-leveled schools on sprawling campuses increases the
14 difficulty of securing acreage suitable for school construction, unnecessarily removes
15 valuable property from the tax rolls, and increases the tax burden of all DeKalb County
16 taxpayers; and

17 WHEREAS, many DeKalb County parents claim that the Board of Education of DeKalb
18 County is unresponsive to their expressed concerns and their input is either not sought or is
19 ignored on important considerations involving their children's education.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body urge the Board of Education of DeKalb County to rethink and
22 redraw attendance zones and feeder pattern maps to reflect current realities; make a

1 comprehensive assessment of the impact of new and soon to be built schools on attendance
2 zones and patterns; recognize distance minimization between students' homes and schools
3 as the primary criterion for developing the new attendance zone plan; provide the parents and
4 students of DeKalb County with opportunities for meaningful input into development of the
5 new attendance plan; and to make more sites available for school construction, reduce the
6 amount of acreage removed from the tax rolls, increase the likelihood of securing parcels that
7 are closer to each other, and return to the construction of multi-leveled structures.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
9 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the school superintendent
10 and each member of the Board of Education of DeKalb County.