

## House Resolution 1407

By: Representatives Yates of the 85<sup>th</sup>, Post 1, and Lunsford of the 85<sup>th</sup>, Post 2

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and legacy of Andrew Zadok "A.Z." Kelsey and family; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Andrew Zadok "A.Z." Kelsey, reverently referred to in the Griffin and Spalding  
4 County community as "Professor" Kelsey, was a minister, educator, and farmer during the  
5 early twentieth century; and

6 WHEREAS, Professor Kelsey was born shortly after the Civil War in Millen, Jenkins  
7 County, Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, Professor Kelsey was married to the former Marie Hayward Jones and they had  
9 two children, Andrew Kelsey, Jr., and George D. Kelsey; and

10 WHEREAS, the Kelseys moved to Griffin, Georgia, from Columbus, Georgia, between 1910  
11 and 1920; and

12 WHEREAS, after moving to Griffin, Professor Kelsey became the principal of the Cabin  
13 Creek School, a private school operated by several African American churches in Spalding  
14 County, and managed the school's farm while Mrs. Kelsey served as a teacher; and

15 WHEREAS, Professor Kelsey was eventually named the principal of the Dan Cannon  
16 Memorial School, later known as the Excelsior School and the Kelsey School; and

17 WHEREAS, Professor and Mrs. Kelsey were widely recognized as dedicated and active  
18 educators and members of the community; and

19 WHEREAS, as a testament to Professor and Mrs. Kelsey's fine example, their son George  
20 D. Kelsey later became an esteemed educator and theologian at Morehouse College and  
21 Drew University; and

1 WHEREAS, in 2001 the Griffin-Spalding County Board of Education officially named one  
2 of its middle schools in honor of Professor A.Z. Kelsey.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
4 the members of this body and the citizens of Griffin and Spalding County honor the great life  
5 and legacy of the A.Z. Kelsey family and extend sincere wishes for an extraordinary renewal  
6 of Founders Day celebration on February 27, 2004.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
8 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to A.Z. Kelsey Middle School.