

Senate Resolution 366

By: Senators Shafer of the 48th, Unterman of the 45th, Balfour of the 9th, Henson of the 41st and Thompson of the 5th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Honorable J. Alvin Wilbanks; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, since March, 1996, J. Alvin Wilbanks has served the citizens and school
3 children of Gwinnett County as Superintendent of Georgia's largest school system, Gwinnett
4 County Public Schools; and

5 WHEREAS, during his nine years as its chief executive officer, J. Alvin Wilbanks has led
6 Gwinnett County Public Schools to be recognized as one of the most successful and
7 well-respected public school systems in the state and nation; and

8 WHEREAS, J. Alvin Wilbanks directed the establishment of a comprehensive, rigorous
9 educational program that has resulted in student achievement remaining consistently high
10 among Gwinnett County students despite extraordinary growth and dramatic demographic
11 changes in the county's population; and

12 WHEREAS, two Georgia Governors and a United States Secretary of Education have called
13 on J. Alvin Wilbanks to assist in developing state and federal initiatives to improve education
14 in Georgia and the nation; and

15 WHEREAS, J. Alvin Wilbanks has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills in managing
16 the extreme challenges of growth and school overcrowding through creative and visionary
17 approaches to maximizing available financial resources; and

18 WHEREAS, J. Alvin Wilbanks, an educator for over four decades, is beginning his tenth
19 year as Gwinnett's superintendent, effectively leading a system of 106 schools that serve
20 more than 136,000 students and employ almost 23,000 people; and

1 WHEREAS, the Gwinnett County Public School system, under the leadership of J. Alvin
2 Wilbanks, continually earns state and national recognition for its award-winning programs,
3 schools, staff, and students; and

4 WHEREAS, the Gwinnett County business community holds J. Alvin Wilbanks in the
5 highest regard, consistently praising the quality of the public school system he heads as the
6 primary factor in the county's economic vitality; and

7 WHEREAS, J. Alvin Wilbanks serves on the board of numerous community agencies and
8 has been honored repeatedly with professional and civic awards for his outstanding service
9 and leadership; and

10 WHEREAS, the Georgia School Superintendents Association named J. Alvin Wilbanks the
11 2005 "Georgia Superintendent of the Year," and he subsequently was named one of four
12 finalists for the prestigious title of "National Superintendent of the Year" for 2005.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
14 do hereby commend Honorable J. Alvin Wilbanks for his commitment to excellence in
15 teaching and learning, his outstanding record of achievement in service to public education,
16 and his dedication to the children of Gwinnett County and the State of Georgia.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
18 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Honorable J. Alvin Wilbanks.