

## House Resolution 564

By: Representatives Brooks of the 63<sup>rd</sup> and Watson of the 91<sup>st</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Acknowledging the efforts of the Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials to repeal  
2 certain obsolete laws relating to segregation; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, half a century after *Brown v. Board of Education* of Topeka, Kansas, Georgia  
4 and other Southern states still have laws on their books which are remnants of the laws  
5 passed to resist the 1954 decision leading to the desegregation of public schools; and

6 WHEREAS, the Official Code of Georgia Annotated retains at least five laws passed in  
7 response to the *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling which overturned segregation; and

8 WHEREAS, the Code includes a law allowing the Governor to suspend compulsory  
9 education laws when integration threatens; and

10 WHEREAS, the Code in its present form also allows for the following: teachers at  
11 segregated private schools to "join desirable state pension programs"; the state to lease, sell,  
12 or donate property to private, segregated schools; and a student to receive a tuition grant to  
13 attend a private school instead of an integrated public one; and

14 WHEREAS, the laws, hidden deep within the Code, were revealed in a recent study done by  
15 the University of Arizona; and

16 WHEREAS, the 2004 General Assembly passed a bipartisan measure that stripped some old  
17 laws from the Code, but the legislation did not touch the Jim Crow laws; and

18 WHEREAS, the Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials (GABEO) with the support  
19 of the entire GABEO family, including the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus and the  
20 Georgia Conference of Black Mayors, launched a movement to repeal these racist,  
21 segregationist laws.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
2 the members of this body acknowledge the efforts of the Georgia Association of Black  
3 Elected Officials to repeal the obsolete state laws relating to racial segregation and express  
4 their support in this worthwhile effort.  
5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
6 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Association of  
7 Black Elected Officials.