

House Resolution 2070

By: Representative Stanley-Turner of the 53<sup>rd</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and honoring Dr. Peyton Williams, Jr., for his many years of outstanding  
2 service to the State of Georgia and the nation in the field of education; and for other  
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Peyton Williams, Jr., has exhibited untiring dedication in his efforts to  
5 improve the quality of education throughout this country; and

6 WHEREAS, prior to accepting an appointment as Georgia's first African American State  
7 School Superintendent by the Georgia Board of Education in 1977, he served as a high  
8 school teacher, assistant principal, and middle school principal; and

9 WHEREAS, he served as Associate State Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction and  
10 Assistant State Superintendent for Public Libraries and State Schools before serving as the  
11 Deputy State Superintendent of Schools in the Georgia Department of Education in Atlanta,  
12 Georgia; and

13 WHEREAS, for 25 years he was the highest ranking African American in the Department  
14 of Education, with leadership and management responsibilities for major departments; and

15 WHEREAS, he has an extensive background in curriculum development and supervision and  
16 public policy in education, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree from Fort Valley State  
17 College, a Master of Education degree from Tuskegee Institute, an educational specialist  
18 degree from the University of Georgia, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Georgia  
19 State University; and

20 WHEREAS, he has received state, regional, and national recognition for his work in  
21 education, including the Governor's Award for Outstanding Service in State Government;  
22 the Crystal Star Distinguished Service and Leadership Award from the National Dropout  
23 Prevention Network; the Lodestar Award and the Distinguished Education Award from the

1 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; the Distinguished Alumni Award from the  
2 College of Education of Georgia State University; and induction in the Fort Valley State  
3 College Alumni Hall of Fame; and

4 WHEREAS, he has been actively involved at the state and national level in the work of the  
5 Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), which is one of the  
6 largest professional organizations in the world, serving on the board of directors, the  
7 executive council, the international polling panel, the ASCD Committee on  
8 Internationalization, the Governance Evaluation Task Force, and the Resolutions Committee;  
9 serving as an ASCD associate, the Georgia Department of Education's liaison to the Georgia  
10 ASCD Executive Board, and the first chair of the Issues Committee; and cofounding the  
11 ASCD African American Critical Issues Network, also serving as its facilitator; and

12 WHEREAS, he was installed as president of ASCD in 2002 and is the only the second  
13 African American from the South to serve in this coveted role; and

14 WHEREAS, this born leader has also served in various roles within the Southern Association  
15 of Colleges and Schools; and

16 WHEREAS, this dynamic individual is a dedicated leader in his community as well as in his  
17 church; and

18 WHEREAS, he has served in many ministries throughout the years within the Mt. Vernon  
19 Baptist Church, including as chairman of the Deacon Board and chairman of the Mt. Vernon  
20 Baptist Church Daycare and Academy Board of Education; and

21 WHEREAS, he spearheaded as chairman the most recent Pastor Search Committee where  
22 he played a pivotal part in keeping the church on the right path and within their goals while  
23 looking to God for guidance; and

24 WHEREAS, this great Georgian epitomizes patience, courageous selflessness, unrelenting  
25 devotion, and all the best qualities of public service; and

26 WHEREAS, he has made an everlasting positive impact on education that will continue to  
27 benefit our young people for generations to come, and it is most fitting and proper for this  
28 body to recognize Dr. Williams's contributions to his community and to the State of Georgia.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
2 the members of this body join in recognizing and honoring Dr. Peyton Williams, Jr., for his  
3 many years of esteemed and outstanding service to the State of Georgia and the nation in the  
4 field of education.

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 Dr. Peyton Williams, Jr.