

## House Resolution 645

By: Representative Abrams of the 84<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mr. Richard Frank Leitgeb and inviting him to be recognized by the House of  
2 Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, an army veteran, Mr. Richard Frank Leitgeb started his career in education  
4 teaching in Milwaukee's Fritsche Middle School and inspired the creation of a performing  
5 arts magnet program in Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, as a retired teacher, Mr. Leitgeb is well-recognized in the area of performing  
7 arts education and serves as a cherished mentor to many of his former students; and

8 WHEREAS, his excellence in orchestrating performing arts productions inspired the creation  
9 of a performing arts school in DeKalb County at Avondale High School called the DeKalb  
10 Center for Performing Arts; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Leitgeb's work led to the creation of two elementary magnet programs in  
12 the performing arts, Avondale Elementary and Hooper Alexander Elementary; and

13 WHEREAS, these magnet programs have emphasized superior scholarship as well as music,  
14 dance, acting, and the trades related to the fine arts, such as stage design, costume design,  
15 and lighting; and

16 WHEREAS, year after year, DeKalb School of the Arts is listed as one of the best high  
17 schools in the nation because of its high academic standards and superior SAT scores; and

18 WHEREAS, graduates of the DeKalb School of the Arts have become performers on the  
19 Broadway stage, guest starred on *Law & Order*, performed in the Atlanta Opera, published  
20 plays and novels, and led to such successful careers as Assistant United States Attorney, a  
21 chemical physicist for Los Alamos Labs, and the Minority Leader of the Georgia House of  
22 Representatives; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Leitgeb's passion for uplifting the lives of others through education and his  
24 vision, commitment, and tireless dedication to empowering students have served as an  
25 example for all educators; and

26 WHEREAS, in recognition of his contributions to the students in this state, it is abundantly  
27 fitting and proper for this body to honor the extraordinary commitment and accomplishments  
28 of this outstanding individual.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
30 the members of this body heartily and gratefully commend Mr. Richard Frank Leitgeb for  
31 his decades of sacrifice, foresight, accomplishment, and contributions on behalf of education  
32 in Georgia; recognize the positive influence he has had upon the lives and futures of  
33 countless young people in this state; applaud his unwavering devotion to the teaching  
34 profession and to the creative development of our future; and invite him to be recognized by  
35 the House of Representatives at a date and time to be designated by the Speaker of the House  
36 of Representatives.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
38 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Richard Frank Leitgeb.