

House Resolution 669

By: Representative Abrams of the 84th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Mr. Richard Frank Leitgeb; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, an army veteran, Mr. Richard Frank Leitgeb started his career in education
3 teaching in Milwaukee's Fritsche Middle School and inspired the creation of a performing
4 arts magnet program in Georgia; and
- 5 WHEREAS, as a retired teacher, Mr. Leitgeb is well-recognized in the area of performing
6 arts education and serves as a cherished mentor to many of his former students; and
- 7 WHEREAS, his excellence in orchestrating performing arts productions inspired the creation
8 of a performing arts school in DeKalb County at Avondale High School called the DeKalb
9 Center for Performing Arts; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Mr. Leitgeb's work led to the creation of two elementary magnet programs in
11 the performing arts, Avondale Elementary and Hooper Alexander Elementary; and
- 12 WHEREAS, these magnet programs have emphasized superior scholarship as well as music,
13 dance, acting, and the trades related to the fine arts, such as stage design, costume design,
14 and lighting; and
- 15 WHEREAS, year after year, DeKalb School of the Arts is listed as one of the best high
16 schools in the nation because of its high academic standards and superior SAT scores; and
- 17 WHEREAS, graduates of the DeKalb School of the Arts have become performers on the
18 Broadway stage, guest starred on *Law & Order*, performed in the Atlanta Opera, published
19 plays and novels, and led to such successful careers as Assistant United States Attorney, a
20 chemical physicist for Los Alamos Labs, and the Minority Leader of the Georgia House of
21 Representatives; and

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

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

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
29 the members of this body heartily and gratefully commend Mr. Richard Frank Leitgeb for
30 his decades of sacrifice, foresight, accomplishment, and contributions on behalf of education
31 in Georgia, recognize the positive influence he has had upon the lives and futures of
32 countless young people in this state, and applaud his unwavering devotion to the teaching
33 profession and to the creative development of our future.

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