

House Resolution 558

By: Representative Jones of the 53rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Na'Taki Osborne Jelks and congratulating her upon being honored as a
2 Distinguished Servant Leader; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Na'Taki Osborne Jelks is an environmental health scientist, social change
4 engineer, and educator who is working for a healthy, just, and sustainable future, and she has
5 worked to address environmental challenges facing communities of color for more than 18
6 years; and

7 WHEREAS, she has been honored as a Distinguished Servant Leader, which is a recognition
8 bestowed by the Georgia Legislative Women's Caucus upon women who have provided
9 invaluable service to their communities and the State of Georgia; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Jelks co-founded the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance, an urban,
11 community-based organization made up of residents living in the Proctor, Utoy, and Sandy
12 Creek watersheds in Northwest and Southwest Atlanta who are overburdened with
13 environmental stressors and pollution; and

14 WHEREAS, she serves as Chair of the Board of the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance, as an
15 adjunct instructor in the Environmental Science and Studies Program at Spelman College,
16 and is a Ph.D. candidate at Georgia State University's School of Public Health; and

17 WHEREAS, she was honored as a 2014 White House Champion of Change for her efforts
18 to engage urban communities and youth of color in environmental stewardship through
19 hands-on watershed and land restoration initiatives; and

20 WHEREAS, Mrs. Jelks co-founded the Atlanta Earth Tomorrow Program, which is the
21 National Wildlife Federation's multicultural environmental education and development
22 program for urban teens; and

23 WHEREAS, she is united in love and marriage to Reverend Ken Jelks and is blessed with
24 an amazing son, Kenyatta; and

25 WHEREAS, Mrs. Jelks is an accomplished poet and is currently working on her first book
26 of non-fiction, *Rooted Resistance: Women of Color and Environmental Justice*; and

27 WHEREAS, Na'Taki Osborne Jelks has worked tirelessly to make her community and the
28 State of Georgia a better place in which to live, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that
29 this distinguished Georgian receive the recognition of this body.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body commend Na'Taki Osborne Jelks, congratulate her upon being
32 honored as a Distinguished Servant Leader, and extend their most sincere best wishes for
33 continued health, happiness, and success.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
35 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
36 Na'Taki Osborne Jelks.