

House Resolution 760

By: Representatives Abrams of the 89th, Cannon of the 58th, Jones of the 53rd, Shannon of the 84th, Gardner of the 57th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the Truancy Intervention Project (TIP); and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Truancy Intervention Project recently celebrated its 25th anniversary in
3 October, 2016; and
- 4 WHEREAS, since its inception in 1991, TIP has been referred by the Fulton County Juvenile
5 Court, the Atlanta Public Schools (APS), and Fulton County Schools (FCS), and TIP's
6 trained volunteers have substantially benefited more than 10,000 chronically absent children;
7 and
- 8 WHEREAS, almost 86 percent of those children, average age of eight, have returned to
9 school and succeeded; and
- 10 WHEREAS, in assisting these children, TIP has had a direct impact by providing these
11 children the opportunity to have happy and productive lives; and
- 12 WHEREAS, in representing TIP clients, TIP volunteers have reduced juvenile and adult
13 crime, teen pregnancy, and the need for public services and, in doing so, TIP has formed
14 collaboratives with the Fulton County Juvenile Court, Atlanta Bar Association, APS, FCS,
15 the firms, law departments, and other components of the Atlanta legal community, and the
16 terrific 2,000 or more trained TIP volunteers who have successfully partnered with chronic
17 absentee children as caring legal advocates, surrogate family members, and counselors for
18 the benefit of the children, their families, and our broader community; and
- 19 WHEREAS, TIP volunteers have prevented much private pain and public expense by caring
20 for and mentoring children, creating healthy relationships, and improving the lives of the
21 families served; and

22 WHEREAS, numerous other counties have adopted the TIP model in their communities,
23 since eradicating school failure is necessary in urban, suburban, and rural areas of our state;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, TIP volunteers' efforts have saved Fulton County more than \$5.3 million in
26 court appointed lawyer fees alone; and

27 WHEREAS, TIP's peerless staff and exceptional volunteers are to be congratulated and
28 celebrated.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body honor the outstanding achievements of the Truancy Intervention
31 Project, its board and staff, and all agencies, individuals, and collaborators which contributed
32 to the above invaluable achievements.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
34 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
35 Truancy Intervention Project.