

## House Resolution 154

By: Representatives Parrish of the 158<sup>th</sup>, Burns of the 159<sup>th</sup>, Hugley of the 141<sup>st</sup>, Park of the 107<sup>th</sup>, Jones of the 47<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Morehouse School of Medicine upon its 50th anniversary; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Louis Brown, an internal medicine physician in Atlanta, proposed the idea  
4 for a new medical school to the presidents of the Atlanta University Center schools in 1969;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation supported a feasibility study to investigate the  
7 idea for a new medical school, and then Morehouse College President Dr. Hugh M. Gloster  
8 expressed interest in establishing a medical school at the college; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1975, Morehouse College recruited Dr. Louis W. Sullivan, a Morehouse  
10 graduate, to serve as the first president and academic dean of the Medical Education Program  
11 at Morehouse College, with a vision to diversify the healthcare workforce and provide  
12 primary healthcare in underserved rural and urban communities; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1977, the State of Georgia appropriated \$1 million as a state operating grant  
14 to support the operations of the new program at Morehouse College; and

15 WHEREAS, Morehouse School of Medicine began in a single trailer on the campus of  
16 Morehouse College in the summer of 1978 with an inaugural class of 24 students in its  
17 two-year medical sciences program, allowing students to transfer to four-year institutions to  
18 complete their education; and

19 WHEREAS, the medical school was incorporated in Georgia in 1980, officially became an  
20 independent institution in 1981, and established a four-year medical school in 1985 as the  
21 Morehouse School of Medicine; and

22 WHEREAS, 3,283 students, including 1,867 physicians, have graduated from Morehouse  
23 School of Medicine, and approximately 60 percent of the MD graduates who have completed  
24 residency are practicing in Georgia; and

25 WHEREAS, Morehouse School of Medicine has significantly expanded its physical  
26 footprint, academic programs, research initiatives, and physician class size under the  
27 leadership of its first and only woman President and CEO, Dr. Valerie Montgomery Rice;  
28 and

29 WHEREAS, it is abundantly proper and fitting that the accomplishments of this  
30 distinguished Georgia institution be appropriately recognized on the occasion of its 50th  
31 anniversary.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
33 the members of this body commend Morehouse School of Medicine upon its 50th  
34 anniversary celebration in the State of Georgia, without which students would not have  
35 access to quality education, research would not have been conducted, and healthcare access  
36 would not have expanded as broadly across the state.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
38 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to  
39 Morehouse School of Medicine.