

House Resolution 208

By: Representatives Schofield of the 63rd, McClain of the 109th, Scott of the 76th, Sanchez of the 42nd, and Cannon of the 58th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Georgia General Assembly to prohibit the use of racially derogatory or
2 discriminatory school mascots, logos, or team names in Georgia public schools; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, more than 1.7 million children are enrolled in Georgia's public schools; and

5 WHEREAS, certain mascots, logos, or team names that are or have been used by public
6 schools are uniquely discriminatory in singling out the Native American community for
7 derision and cultural appropriation; and

8 WHEREAS, although the inappropriate use of Native American names, symbols, or images
9 may be premised on the promotion of unity or school spirit, such use fails to respect the
10 cultural heritage of Native Americans and fails to promote productive relationships between
11 sovereign governments; and

12 WHEREAS, numerous individuals and organizations, including the United States
13 Commission on Civil Rights, have concluded that the use of Native American names,
14 symbols, or images in school sports is a barrier to equality and understanding and that all
15 residents of the United States would benefit from the discontinuance of such use; and

16 WHEREAS, the use of racially derogatory or discriminatory school mascots, logos, or team
17 names in Georgia public schools is antithetical to their mission of providing an equal
18 education to all and contrary to the goal of making schools safe and respectful learning
19 environments; and

20 WHEREAS, no public school in this state has a cognizable interest in retaining a racially
21 derogatory or discriminatory school mascot, logo, or team name.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
23 the members of this body urge the Georgia General Assembly to prohibit the use of racially
24 derogatory or discriminatory school mascots, logos, or team names in Georgia public
25 schools.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body urge the elected members of
27 the local boards of education, local school superintendents, and other public school leaders
28 to prohibit the use of racially derogatory or discriminatory school mascots, logos, or team
29 names in their schools.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
31 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
32 elected members of the local boards of education, local school superintendents, and other
33 public school leaders.