

House Resolution 558

By: Representatives Crawford of the 84th, Mitchell of the 88th, Reese of the 140th, Willis of the 55th, and Gilliard of the 162nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Leadership Academy sponsored by the DeKalb County Chapter of 100
2 Black Men of America Inc.; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 1991, the DeKalb County Chapter of 100 Black Men of America Inc. was
4 formed and the Leadership Academy was initiated shortly thereafter as its flagship
5 community service project with the support of local businesses, public agencies, and
6 educational institutions; and

7 WHEREAS, like in many communities, young people of color in DeKalb County and metro
8 Atlanta face problems of poverty, crime, single parenthood, drugs, violence, and
9 hopelessness; and

10 WHEREAS, the mission of the Leadership Academy is to supplement parental guidance for
11 selected youth and serve as a parallel learning and achievement program in cooperation with
12 the DeKalb County Public School System; and

13 WHEREAS, over the past 17 years, more than 1,500 students have graduated from the
14 academy, 80 percent of which have enrolled in colleges, universities, and trade schools; and

15 WHEREAS, the Leadership Academy is designed to address the crises in which today's
16 youth find themselves, and it focuses on providing a series of structured educational activities
17 that allow young people to learn and experience new survival techniques; and

18 WHEREAS, the Leadership Academy further provides several auxiliary programs designed
19 to address other pressing issues impacting today's youth, including after-school tutoring, SAT
20 preparation, computer training, Stay In School projects, and gang violence and career
21 preparation seminars; and

22 WHEREAS, a guiding principle for the Leadership Academy is that "one must effectively
23 manage oneself before being able to manage others," and it is this performance based
24 philosophy which underlies all of its activities.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
26 the members of this body heartily commend the Leadership Academy and its sponsor, the
27 DeKalb County Chapter of 100 Black Men of America Inc.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
29 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
30 DeKalb County Chapter of 100 Black Men of America Inc.