

House Resolution 59

By: Representatives Burns of the 159th and Hitchens of the 161st

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the accomplishments of Springfield Central High School's basketball program;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Springfield Central High School opened in 1956 under the leadership of
4 Principal Clifton Allen Wiggins and was the first consolidated high school for
5 African-Americans in Effingham County, Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, the Springfield Central High School's boys' and girls' basketball teams
7 established and maintained a proud tradition of excellence with equal emphases on character
8 and academics until the school's conversion to a junior high school in 1970; and

9 WHEREAS, the teams brought special recognition to the school and to Effingham County,
10 by winning numerous District IX and state championships; and

11 WHEREAS, the phenomenal performance of each team was a clear indication of the
12 outstanding athletic ability, the dedication and hard work, and the unity of purpose and spirit
13 of each member who played on teams under the astute direction of head coaches, H.W.B.
14 Smith, Jr., Marion Dingle, and Georgia Bartley; and

15 WHEREAS, despite not having a gymnasium until 1958, Springfield Central High School
16 still considered basketball competitions as an important part of the school's mission to serve
17 as a social institution as well as a place of learning; and

18 WHEREAS, as these magnificent teams earned their well-deserved reputation for excellence
19 by performing with courage and precision, it is abundantly proper to memorialize them for
20 their grand accomplishments.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
22 the members of this body commend the Springfield Central High School basketball program

23 for its outstanding legacy and extend their most sincere best wishes for the future of its
24 players and coaches.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
26 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
27 Springfield Central High School basketball program.