

House Resolution 1375

By: Representative Waites of the 60th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life, contributions, and memory of Asa Grant Hilliard III; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Asa Grant Hilliard III, also known as Nana Baffour Amankwatia II, had a
4 profound effect on the teaching of children worldwide, particularly blacks and other ethnic
5 minorities; and

6 WHEREAS, he believed the keys to achievement were high expectations, well-trained
7 teachers, and the abandonment of standardized testing; and

8 WHEREAS, he was a pioneer in the rediscovery of the African roots of modern civilization
9 and a leading proponent of an Afrocentric school curriculum that emphasized the historical
10 achievements of blacks to promote students' self-esteem; and

11 WHEREAS, Asa Hilliard authored more than a thousand publications on subjects including
12 educational policy, teaching strategies, testing, child growth and development, and African
13 history and culture; and several of his programs for teaching, assessment, and pluralistic
14 curricula are now national models; and

15 WHEREAS, he led a distinguished career, serving in positions in high schools and colleges
16 as a teacher, professor, Dean of Education, school psychologist, and superintendent;
17 consulting for the Peace Corps, various school districts, universities, educational
18 organizations, textbooks, and educational videos; and founding Waset Education Productions
19 and Makare Publishing; and

20 WHEREAS, he was a founder and member of the San Francisco chapter of the Alliance of
21 Black School Educators, founder and vice president of the Association for the Study of
22 Classical African Civilizations, a founding board member of the National Black Child
23 Development Institute, board member of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher

24 Education, and a fellow on the board of ethnic and minority affairs for the American
25 Psychology Association; and

26 WHEREAS, he also received many awards including the Republic of Liberia's 1972 Knight
27 Commander of the Humane Order of African Redemption; the American Association of
28 Colleges for Teachers' Thurgood Marshall Award for Excellence; the American Association
29 of Higher Education Black Caucus' Harold Delaney Exemplary Educational Leadership
30 Award; the American Educational Research Association's Distinguished Career Contribution
31 Award and Research and Development Award for Excellence; and he received honorary
32 doctorates from Wheelock College and DePaul University; and

33 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
34 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness and, by the example he made of his life, he
35 made this world a better place in which to live.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 the members of this body join in honoring the life, contributions, and memory of Asa Grant
38 Hilliard III in the naming of the Asa Grant Hilliard Elementary School.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
41 family of Asa Grant Hilliard III.