

## House Resolution 1501

By: Representatives Hutchinson of the 107<sup>th</sup>, Clark of the 108<sup>th</sup>, Holly of the 111<sup>th</sup>, Kennard of the 102<sup>nd</sup>, and Marin of the 96<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating and commending Dr. Amber M. Simmons for receiving the 2020 Yellow  
2 Rose Nikki T. Randall Servant Leader Award; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 1999, Representative Nikki T. Randall became the first African American  
4 female elected to the General Assembly from middle Georgia, and over her 17 years of  
5 service as a legislator, she held numerous leadership positions, including chair of the Georgia  
6 Legislative Women's Caucus; and

7 WHEREAS, every year during Women's History Month, the Georgia Legislative Women's  
8 Caucus recognizes outstanding women in Georgia who exemplify the leadership and  
9 inspiration embodied by Representative Randall; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Amber M. Simmons received her doctorate in language and literacy from  
11 the University of Georgia and has published her work on critical literacy and systemic  
12 functional linguistics in several professional, peer-reviewed journals and textbooks; her work  
13 has also been presented at both national and international conferences; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Simmons has been recognized with many awards for her contributions to  
15 the field of literacy education, including the NASFLA Promising Scholar Award, the  
16 International Society of Language Studies Emergent Scholar Award, the Georgia Council of  
17 Teachers of English Teacher of the Year Award, and the National Council of Teachers of  
18 English Teacher of Excellence Award; and

19 WHEREAS, she has received a variety of grants to support her literacy and social-emotional  
20 health initiatives in her school and community, increasing the number of bilingual books in  
21 the school library by 85 percent; donating over \$4,500 worth of diverse, bilingual, and  
22 inclusive books to the Gwinnett County Public Schools Book Mobile; and creating a book  
23 gift program for students with learning disabilities and emotional/behavioral disorders; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Simmons has established a glowing reputation of renown throughout  
25 Georgia for her efforts to promote literacy and improve the lives of children; and

26 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
27 extraordinary servant leader be appropriately recognized.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
29 the members of this body congratulate and commend Dr. Amber M. Simmons for receiving  
30 the 2020 Yellow Rose Nikki T. Randall Servant Leader Award and extend best wishes for  
31 her continued success.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
33 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Dr.  
34 Amber M. Simmons.