

## Senate Resolution 554

By: Senators Albers of the 56th and Beach of the 21st

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending the Fulton County School System; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, on May 10, 2012, the State Board of Education voted to make the Fulton  
3 County School System this state's largest charter system; and
- 4 WHEREAS, charter system status officially began on July 1, 2012, and will continue over  
5 a course of five years; and
- 6 WHEREAS, charter system status will strengthen the Fulton County School System's ability  
7 to provide flexibility in its operations with the result of increased student achievement; and
- 8 WHEREAS, the charter system's focus is among three main areas, people, instruction, and  
9 finances, and it provides more autonomy to increase student achievement, guide continual  
10 improvement, and encourage innovation; and
- 11 WHEREAS, community engagement and support are vital to the success of the charter  
12 system model; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Fulton County Schools conducted two years of intensive study, dialogue with  
14 parents, staff, community members, and the school board, and research into instructional best  
15 practices before becoming a charter system; and
- 16 WHEREAS, in its first year of the charter system model, community and school  
17 collaboration flourishes through the creation of School Governance Councils; and
- 18 WHEREAS, parent and staff members were called to serve on School Governance Councils  
19 and create meaningful, cooperative relationships in support of school and student  
20 achievement; and

21 WHEREAS, twenty Cohort 1 schools will be observed by other Fulton schools as they  
22 engage students, parents, teachers and staff, and community members; and

23 WHEREAS, a proper quality education for the young people of this state is the single most  
24 important objective of the General Assembly.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
26 recognize the Fulton County School System as a model for other school systems to follow  
27 for successful implementation of a charter system and sincerely commend it on its progress.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
29 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Fulton County School System.