



Introduced Version

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring Annie
Burns-Hicks.

**Jackson, Bartlett, DeLaney, Harris,
Hatcher, Pack, Porter, Pryor,
Shackleford, Smith V**

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

20232747

2023

HC 1024/DI 140



**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring Annie
2 Burns-Hicks.

3 *Whereas, In 1959, Annie Burns-Hicks decided she wanted to*
4 *teach because she did not have a teacher who looked like her*
5 *when she was a child. Becoming a full-time teacher in*
6 *Hammond, Indiana, as a Black woman was initially difficult,*
7 *but she remained focused and persistent;*

8 *Whereas, In 1960, Annie Burns-Hicks became the first Black*
9 *teacher in the city of Hammond;*

10 *Whereas, Annie Burns-Hicks spent more than 40 years*
11 *teaching kindergarten and first grade at Maywood Elementary*
12 *School. She developed the kindergarten curriculum for the*
13 *school corporation;*

14 *Whereas, Annie Burns-Hicks was a patient teacher who*
15 *focused on the character traits of citizenship, effort, and*
16 *respect;*

17 *Whereas, Annie Burns-Hicks' hiring was recorded by Jet*
18 *magazine in an article titled, "Hammond, Ind., Signs First*
19 *Negro Teacher". Roland Parrish, a Dallas, Texas, entrepreneur*
20 *and philanthropist who was educated in Hammond, has*
21 *completed a documentary of her life titled, "This Wall Must*
22 *Come Down". The documentary premiered on April 28, 2022,*
23 *in Hammond, Indiana;*

24 *Whereas, In January 2022, The School City of Hammond*
25 *school board voted unanimously to rename Maywood*



1 *Elementary School as Annie Burns-Hicks Elementary School.*
2 *Annie attended Maywood Elementary as a child and spent most*
3 *of her teaching career at this school;*

4 *Whereas, The School City of Hammond turned a historical*
5 *negative into a historical positive by using a series of bad*
6 *decisions more than 60 years ago as a teaching moment for*
7 *children and our community; and*

8 *Whereas, The renaming of Maywood Elementary School to*
9 *Annie Burns-Hicks Elementary School permanently preserves*
10 *the legacy of Annie Burns-Hicks as an education pioneer and*
11 *upholds the values of fairness, persistence, perseverance,*
12 *forgiveness, integrity, hard work, justice, and peace: Therefore,*

13 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives*
14 *of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,*
15 *the Senate concurring:*

16 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives
17 honors Annie Burns-Hicks and thanks the School City of
18 Hammond for renaming the Maywood Elementary School to
19 Annie Burns-Hicks Elementary School in honor of Hammond's
20 first Black teacher.

21 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
22 Representatives shall transmit copies of this resolution to State
23 Representative Carolyn Jackson for distribution.

