

HR147 INTRODUCED



1 HR147
2 DGQ1ZNH-1
3 By Representatives Givan, Datcher, Sellers, Treadaway,
4 Tillman, Carns, Garrett, Shaw, Brinyark
5 RFD:
6 First Read: 18-Mar-25



HR_____ CONGRATULATING DR. WALTER B. GONSOULIN, JR. FOR BEING
NAMED THE 2025 NATIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR.

WHEREAS, highest commendations and well wishes are
hereby extended to Dr. Walter B. Gonsoulin, Jr. for being
named the 2025 National Superintendent of the Year at the
AASA, The School Superintendents Association's National
Conference on Education, marking him as the first Alabama
educator to win the national title; and

WHEREAS, now in its 38th year, the National
Superintendent of the Year Program recognizes exceptional
superintendents for their outstanding leadership and
dedication to advancing public education in their
communities; each of the finalists were nominated by their
state association and honored with the title of State
Superintendent of the Year; the nominees were then measured
against the following criteria: leadership for learning,
communication, professionalism, and community involvement;
and

WHEREAS, as the Superintendent of Jefferson County
Schools in Birmingham, Alabama, Walter Gonsoulin, Jr.
oversees 56 schools with 35,000 students in an area that is
roughly the size of Rhode Island; it is the state's second
largest district, with a diverse student body; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gonsoulin was ready for the task when he



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29 took on the job in 2020; he had previously spent several
30 years serving as deputy superintendent and interim
31 superintendent; he dove right in, tackling challenges such
32 as chronic absenteeism and spearheading changes in the
33 school district's zoning patterns to open up learning
34 opportunities to students, regardless of where they lived;
35 for his ambitious leadership and achievements, he was also
36 named the 2025 Alabama State Superintendent of the Year; and

37 WHEREAS, Mr. Gonsoulin is a visionary leader who
38 provides a clear, innovative, and strategic vision for
39 improving educational opportunities for all students; now
40 therefore,

41 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
42 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That highest honors and
43 commendations are given to Dr. Walter B. Gonsoulin, Jr. for
44 being named the 2025 National Superintendent of the Year at
45 the AASA's National Conference on Education, and we offer
46 this resolution as a token of our gratitude and as evidence
47 of our sincere appreciation and high regard as he continues
48 to raise the bar for educational leadership.