

House Resolution 911

By: Representatives Byrd of the 170th, Lane of the 146th, Barnard of the 154th and Coleman of the 142nd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending the Georgia Wilderness Institutes; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Georgia Wilderness Institutes (GWI) provide educational services on a
3 nonprofit basis for at-risk and delinquent youth through a partnership with the Georgia
4 Department of Juvenile Justice; and
- 5 WHEREAS, GWI seeks to redirect troubled youth through a program that focuses on the
6 completion of high school with continuing education goals and balances the educational core
7 with experiences that instill discipline, respect, and responsibility among youth; and
- 8 WHEREAS, GWI operates facilities in Appling, Bleckley, and Screven Counties and serves
9 youth from the entire State of Georgia; and
- 10 WHEREAS, students at each of the GWI facilities perform thousands of hours of community
11 service work, making their communities a better place to live and work, and at the same time,
12 learn valuable lessons about giving back to the community; and
- 13 WHEREAS, successful redirection of troubled youth requires special emphasis in the areas
14 of prevention and intervention plus the support of the law enforcement agencies, local
15 business and community organizations, the legislature, and other state agencies; and
- 16 WHEREAS, the confidence of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice in the program
17 of the Georgia Wilderness Institutes is demonstrated by the number of boys entrusted by the
18 department to its care, growing from 50 boys a year in 1991 to 720 boys at present; and
- 19 WHEREAS, the investment of resources in the Georgia Wilderness Institutes has a positive
20 return on our tax dollars as youth who were tax users are converted into taxpayers.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 this body commends the Georgia Wilderness Institutes and urges the support and
3 participation of all to prevent juvenile crime.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
5 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Wilderness
6 Institutes.