

House Resolution 1125

By: Representatives Sinkfield of the 57th, Smyre of the 136th and Dean of the 48th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the 4,418 men and women of the Juvenile Justice System and declaring
2 Juvenile Justice Day in Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 1919, the State of Georgia took control of the juvenile reformatories and built
4 new ones in Augusta, Milledgeville, Macon, and Atlanta, which later would become training
5 schools; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1963, the Division of Children and Youth was created and, as a result,
7 training schools were renamed youth development centers and the first court service workers
8 were hired which marked the state's first effort to provide community based services to
9 delinquent youth; and

10 WHEREAS, since 1966, the state has been operating regional youth detention centers staffed
11 by youth development workers and juvenile correctional officers; and

12 WHEREAS, throughout the growth of juvenile justice services in Georgia, juvenile service
13 staff have been called upon to treat and service a growing juvenile delinquent population,
14 often giving of themselves as mentors and role models; and

15 WHEREAS, juvenile justice staff have made great strides in providing educational, medical,
16 and mental health services to youth in the care and supervision of the Department of Juvenile
17 Justice; and

18 WHEREAS, juvenile justice staff extend mentoring practices to at-risk youth, such as
19 tutoring at Cook Elementary School and at other schools throughout Georgia; and

20 WHEREAS, the futures of delinquent youth rest in the hands of juvenile justice staff who are
21 trained to rehabilitate youth and teach them life competency skills and accountability so that
22 they may become productive citizens of Georgia; and

1 WHEREAS, the juvenile justice staff remains a professional, prepared, dedicated, and highly
2 trained organization, tested by crises and more than able to respond to the needs of
3 delinquent and at-risk youth.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
5 the members of this body commend the staff of the Department of Juvenile Justice and
6 declare February 28, 2002, to be Juvenile Justice Day in Georgia.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
8 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the commissioner of the
9 Department of Juvenile Justice.