

Senate Resolution 503

By: Senator Starr of the 44th

**ADOPTED SENATE**

**A RESOLUTION**

1 Commending the 4,418 men and women of the juvenile justice system and declaring Juvenile  
2 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 would later become training  
5 schools; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1963, the Division of Children and Youth was created, training schools were  
7 renamed Youth Development Centers, and the first court service workers were hired,  
8 marking the State's first effort to provide community-based services to delinquent youth; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1966, the state began operating Regional Youth Detention Centers staffed  
10 by youth development workers and juvenile correctional officers; and

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

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

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

19 WHEREAS, the futures of delinquent youth rest in the hands of juvenile justice staff who are  
20 trained to habilitate youth and teach them life competency skills and accountability so that  
21 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 SENATE that the members of this body  
5 commend the staff of the Department of Juvenile Justice and declare February 28, 2002, to  
6 be Juvenile Justice Day in Georgia.