

Senate Resolution 221

By: Senator Ragan of the 11<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing dental hygienists and Dental Hygienists' Appreciation Day; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, dental hygienists, as licensed oral health care professionals, have been  
4 promoting oral health and preventing oral disease in Georgia for 59 years; and

5 WHEREAS, there are approximately 4,500 registered dental hygienists practicing in Georgia  
6 and 154 of Georgia's 159 counties have practicing dental hygienists; and

7 WHEREAS, dental hygienists, as preventive specialists, contribute to the oral health of  
8 Georgia residents and provide an essential service contributing to their total health by  
9 providing education to prevent disease; and

10 WHEREAS, regular preventive checkups and cleanings, brushing and flossing, eating a well  
11 balanced diet, and monitoring gums for signs of gum disease are basic steps to ensuring good  
12 oral hygiene and care; and

13 WHEREAS, many dental hygienists voluntarily give of their time and talent to provide  
14 educational and preventive oral health care services to special needs groups such as the  
15 elderly, people with disabilities, and the underprivileged; and

16 WHEREAS, organizations and coalitions with participating dental hygienists include:  
17 Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies Coalition, Georgia Oral Health Coalition, and the Coalition  
18 of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly (COAGE); and

19 WHEREAS, dental hygienists are essential in dental offices, public health facilities, schools,  
20 private organizations, and research facilities to provide the best oral health care for all  
21 citizens.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
2 recognize February 23, 2001, as Dental Hygienists' Appreciation Day in Georgia and  
3 encourage our citizens to recognize dental hygienists for the vital services they provide in  
4 maintaining good oral hygiene and dental health.