

Senate Resolution 784

By: Senators Zamarripa of the 36th, Levetan of the 40th, Moody of the 27th, Kemp of the 46th, Tolleson of the 18th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging and requesting the Department of Human Resources and the Department of
2 Community Health to take certain actions with respect to certain services for people with
3 certain disabilities; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the provision of services and support for people with disabilities and their
5 families has changed in recent years to focus less on institutional care and more toward
6 providing home and community based services (HCBS) that allow people with
7 developmental disabilities and physical disabilities to receive the support necessary to live
8 independent and productive lives in the community; and

9 WHEREAS, it is desirable to provide home and community based services and to avoid the
10 use of institutions; and

11 WHEREAS, the state remains committed to providing people with opportunities for real
12 homes, jobs, learning experiences, recreation, and real choice in their lives; and

13 WHEREAS, as of 2004, the 5th anniversary of the Olmstead decision, there are almost 5,000
14 people with developmental disabilities or physical disabilities on HCBS waiver waiting lists;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, helping people remain with their communities now makes better economic
17 sense than paying expensive institutional costs later; and

18 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest of the General Assembly and the State of Georgia to
19 unlock the waiting lists for home and community based services.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that this body urges the
21 Department of Human Resources and the Department of Community Health to provide the
22 General Assembly with recommendations to support a multiyear funding commitment to

1 unlock the waiting lists for home and community based services for people with
2 developmental disabilities and physical disabilities and that this plan should address both the
3 short and long-term planning lists that exist in both the Department of Human Resources and
4 the Department of Community Health.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body requests that such a plan be submitted to the
6 Senate by July 1, 2004.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
8 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the Board of Human Resources and the
9 Board of Community Health.