

House Resolution 633

By: Representatives Manning of the 32nd, Talton of the 145th, Graves of the 137th, Parsons of the 42nd, and Ashe of the 56th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Urging and requesting the Department of Human Resources, the Department of Community
- 2 Health, the Department of Education, the Department of Labor, and the Department of
- 3 Juvenile Justice to take certain actions with respect to certain services for people with certain
- 4 disabilities; creating the Oversight Committee for Planning to Provide Home and Community
- 5 Based Services; and for other purposes.
- 6 WHEREAS, the provision of services and support for people with disabilities and their
- 7 families has changed in recent years to focus less on institutional care and more toward
- 8 providing home and community based services (HCBS) that allow people with
- 9 developmental disabilities to receive the support necessary to live independent and
- 10 productive lives in the community; and
- 11 WHEREAS, it is desirable to provide home and community based services and to avoid the
- 12 use of institutions, especially with regard to children, adolescents, and persons who haven't
- 13 attained the age of 22; and
- 14 WHEREAS, the state remains committed to providing people with opportunities for real
- 15 homes, jobs, learning experiences, recreation, and genuine choice in their lives; 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 for 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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
- 21 this body urges the Department of Human Resources, the Department of Community Health,
- 22 the Department of Education, the Department of Labor, and the Department of Juvenile
- 23 Justice to provide the General Assembly with a plan to provide home and community based

1 services for developmental disabilities to persons who have not attained the age of 22, with
2 the goal of completely implementing the plan within five years. The Department of Human
3 Resources and all its divisions, the Department of Community Health, the Department of
4 Labor, and the Department of Juvenile Justice are requested to participate and cooperate in
5 developing the plan. Consideration should be given to whether the plan should encompass
6 persons under the age of 22 who are receiving disability services from any department in an
7 institution; receiving residential treatment for developmental disabilities under court order;
8 receiving disability services from the Department of Human Resources or a community
9 service board or other provider by contract with the department; receiving disability services
10 from any of the other agencies; receiving disability services or related medical services from
11 any provider that receives state funds for providing such services; on a waiting list to receive
12 disability services from the Department of Human Resources or a community service board
13 or other provider by contract with the department; on a waiting list to receive disability
14 services from any of the other agencies; or are in need of services because of a
15 developmental disability. The plan should include an estimate of the resources needed for
16 implementation, an identification of resources available for dedication to persons under age
17 22 from each of the agencies, an estimate of additional resources that will be needed, and a
18 proposed budget request for Fiscal Year 2008 to fund the first stage of implementation.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there is created the Oversight Committee for Planning
20 to Provide Home and Community Based Services to consist of three members of the House
21 to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and additional members to
22 be appointed by the Speaker. The nonlegislative members of the committee shall be persons
23 with disabilities, family members of persons with disabilities, and representatives from the
24 Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, the Georgia Advocacy Office, and the
25 Institute on Human Development and Disabilities. The Speaker shall appoint nonlegislative
26 members in such a manner that 60 percent of such members shall be persons with disabilities
27 or family members of persons with disabilities. The oversight committee shall assist in
28 developing the plan.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body requests that such a plan be submitted to the
30 Speaker of the House of Representatives by July 1, 2006. This body further requests that the
31 Department of Human Resources, the Department of Community Health, the Department of
32 Labor, and the Department of Juvenile Justice submit an annual progress report on
33 implementation of the plan to the General Assembly and to the Oversight Committee for
34 Planning to Provide Home and Community Based Services, with the first report to be
35 submitted July 1, 2008.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
2 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the Board of Human
3 Resources, the Board of Community Health, the State Board of Education, the Commissioner
4 of Labor, and the Board of Juvenile Justice.