

## House Resolution 173

By: Representatives Benfield of the 85<sup>th</sup>, Gardner of the 57<sup>th</sup>, Drenner of the 86<sup>th</sup>, Shipp of the 58<sup>th</sup>, Oliver of the 83<sup>rd</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Atlanta;  
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Young Women's Christian Association is a collection of passionate, caring  
4 women who seek a better life for themselves, their families and their communities; and

5 WHEREAS, in 1902, the YWCA of Greater Atlanta was founded as an organization vital to  
6 the personal development and professional growth of women; and

7 WHEREAS, over a century later, the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater  
8 Atlanta is currently the largest and oldest women's membership organization in the State  
9 whose mission is to empower women and eliminate racism; and

10 WHEREAS, a new generation of women is preparing for Georgia's future and is committed  
11 to the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Atlanta; and

12 WHEREAS, as women's lives expand and change and as their multifaceted needs grow while  
13 they take on multiple roles over their lifetime as students, leaders in their families, working  
14 professionals, mothers, caregivers, and contributors to the broader community, the Young  
15 Women's Christian Association of Greater Atlanta has provided a continuum of services to  
16 meet their needs; and

17 WHEREAS, the need for women and girls to learn and practice leadership skills has not  
18 diminished through the years, and the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater  
19 Atlanta provides them with opportunities to develop these skills by ensuring access to  
20 leadership training and skills development and by offering role models and mentors,  
21 experiential learning, and community service activities; and

1 WHEREAS, the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Atlanta is committed to  
2 developing programs with the following three objectives:

- 3 1. Remove barriers to employment and economic self-sufficiency;
- 4 2. Train for higher wage, higher demand jobs; and
- 5 3. Educate and develop women's ability to effectively manage money; and

6 WHEREAS, the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Atlanta seeks to build on  
7 Georgia's rich multicultural society to strengthen Georgia's youth and adults through  
8 opportunities that promote a greater sense of self and independence, as well as foster pride  
9 and respect for one's self, others, and environment; and

10 WHEREAS, racism can undermine a person's quality of life, from jobs held, to income  
11 earned, to the ability to fully enjoy the privileges and freedom that come with being a full  
12 member of American society and the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater  
13 Atlanta has a long history of offering programs designed to achieve racial justice and  
14 embrace diversity; and

15 WHEREAS, the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Atlanta envisions a  
16 community that appreciates its own cultural diversity and rich heritage and works to improve  
17 race and ethnic relations towards the greater goal of racial justice; and

18 WHEREAS, the future success of Georgia's communities depends on the next generation of  
19 women, especially women leaders, who because of their inherent strengths are outstanding  
20 leaders and stewards of our community.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
22 the members of this body commend the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater  
23 Atlanta for 105 years of outstanding service and express support for its pursuit as a place of  
24 learning and growth that offers women the power to change the world.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
26 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Executive Director of  
27 the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Atlanta.