

Senate Resolution 353

By: Senator Unterman of the 45th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the advocacy efforts on behalf of all current, former, and future youth in foster
2 care by the Youth Advocates of Georgia: the Metro Atlanta Youth Opportunities Initiative
3 (MAYOI), the Youth Advisory Board of the Multi-Agency Alliance for Children (MAAC),
4 and For Youth, By Youth (FYBY), and recognizing March 6, 2007, as "Foster Youth Day"
5 at the Capitol; and for other purposes.

6 WHEREAS, these youth advocates have organized themselves to achieve common goals
7 beyond their individual needs and to focus their efforts on improving the foster care system
8 for all of Georgia's children and youth; and

9 WHEREAS, these youth advocates have engaged their communities as public speakers,
10 trainers, consultants, experts, writers, volunteers, peer mediators, mentors, talented youth,
11 survivors, and role models; and

12 WHEREAS, these youth advocates represent the diverse experiences of youth in foster care
13 including youth in basic therapeutic foster care and group homes, residential care,
14 independent and transitional living programs, and aftercare programs; and

15 WHEREAS, these youth advocates also represent former foster children who have aged out
16 of the foster care system and are living on their own; and

17 WHEREAS, these accomplishments are the culmination of years of hard work, exemplary
18 leadership, and exceptional teamwork among this group of highly talented, intelligent, and
19 dedicated youth; and

20 WHEREAS, the hard work and commitment of these youth advocates to their purpose have
21 established a firm foundation for future collaboration by all current, former, and future youth
22 in foster care in the State of Georgia, through the development of a state-wide youth

1 leadership group whose work will be informed and enhanced by the input of local and
2 regional youth groups across this state.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
4 join together to commend the Metro Atlanta Youth Opportunities Initiative, the Youth
5 Advisory Board of the Multi-Agency Alliance for Children, and For Youth, By Youth on the
6 differences they are making in the lives of young people in Georgia and across the country,
7 and recognize March 6, 2007, as "Foster Youth Day" at the Capitol.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
9 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the Metro Youth Opportunities Initiative,
10 the Youth Advisory Board of the Multi-Agency Alliance for Children, and For Youth, By
11 Youth.