

## Senate Resolution 62

By: Senators Goggans of the 7th, Hawkins of the 49th and Jackson of the 2nd

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Georgia Dental Association; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the Georgia Dental Association is the premier professional dental organization  
3 in this State dedicated to promoting and upholding the highest standards of dentistry and  
4 patient care for all Georgians through education, advocacy, and professionalism; and

5 WHEREAS, the Georgia Dental Association was established in 1859 in Macon, Georgia,  
6 moved its headquarters to Atlanta, Georgia, in 1975, and is celebrating its 150th anniversary  
7 in 2009; and

8 WHEREAS, the Georgia Dental Association commissioned a "150 Faces" service project in  
9 honor of the organization's 150th anniversary to highlight the charitable care that dentists in  
10 this state have traditionally provided to patients in need, such as the institutionalized elderly,  
11 children in working poor families, special needs individuals, and others overcoming life's  
12 challenges; and

13 WHEREAS, "150 Faces" focuses on the stories of 150 patients to whom dentists donated  
14 approximately \$758 thousand in care for this project and which the Association shall  
15 commemorate by producing a DVD documentary to be provided to Georgia legislators and  
16 made available for viewing on the association's website; and

17 WHEREAS, in a 2008 Georgia Dental Association membership survey, 79.1 percent of  
18 responding dentists stated that they provided free or reduced fee services to indigent persons,  
19 and almost half stated that they provide between \$1 thousand and \$10 thousand in donated  
20 services annually; and

21 WHEREAS, the Georgia Dental Association has made a commitment to raise special funds  
22 during its anniversary year to help fund the new dental educational building at the Medical  
23 College of Georgia School of Dentistry in Augusta, thus ensuring that Georgians will

24 continue to receive comprehensive, quality care from dentists trained in the finest oral care  
25 arts well into the 21st century; and

26 WHEREAS, the Georgia Dental Association remains dedicated to advancing the profession  
27 of dentistry and improving the oral health of the public for another 150 years.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
29 recognize and commend the Georgia Dental Association on the occasion of its 150th  
30 anniversary in 2009 and for the many contributions made by the organization and its member  
31 dentists in every Georgia county, throughout the State of Georgia, and across the nation.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
33 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Dental Association.