

Senate Resolution 141

By: Senators Hamrick of the 30th and James of the 35th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 15, 2011, as Youth Villages Georgia Day at the state capitol; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Youth Villages is a nonprofit organization which began in Memphis,
4 Tennessee, in 1986 by Patrick W. Lawler and now serves children, youth, and their families
5 in ten states; and

6 WHEREAS, Youth Villages expanded its work by moving to Georgia in 2008 in part to help
7 with children involved in the Kenny A. consent decree and specifically to work with
8 vulnerable children and youth who often wind up in state custody; and

9 WHEREAS, with a mission to help children and families live successfully, Youth Villages
10 believes that strong families ensure that each child has a functioning family and a safe,
11 permanent home, which in turn results in safer neighborhoods and better communities for
12 everyone; and

13 WHEREAS, Youth Villages serves children and their families in the metro area of Atlanta
14 through their Intercept program and in Douglasville with their psychiatric residential
15 treatment facility, Inner Harbour; and

16 WHEREAS, Youth Villages works with children who receive referrals from Georgia's
17 Departments of Human Services, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, and
18 Juvenile Justice; and

19 WHEREAS, a nationally recognized model for working with vulnerable children, youth, and
20 their families, Youth Villages garners an 80 percent success rate on the children and youth
21 they serve, preventing them from re-entering the state's system or ending up in the court
22 systems; and

23 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
24 distinguished organization, its staff, and its volunteers be appropriately recognized for their
25 work to help children and youth and their families.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
27 extend a warm greeting to Youth Villages Georgia, its staff, and its volunteers; commend
28 their past, present and future work on behalf of children, youth, and their families in this state
29 and throughout our nation; and recognize February 15, 2011, as Youth Villages Georgia Day
30 at the state capitol.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
32 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Youth Villages Georgia.