

House Resolution 260

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57th, Oliver of the 83rd, Abrams of the 84th, Ashe of the 56th, Dobbs of the 53rd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Fuqua Center for Late-Life Depression at Emory University, the Atlanta
2 Housing Authority, the Atlanta Area Agency on Aging/Atlanta Regional Commission, the
3 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, the J.B. Fuqua
4 Foundation, and the Jesse Parker Williams Foundation and inviting their representatives to
5 be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

6 WHEREAS, the Fuqua Center for Late-Life Depression is committed to improving the
7 community's understanding and recognition of mental illnesses in older adults and improving
8 access to geriatric psychiatric services; and

9 WHEREAS, the Fuqua Center provides community education programs, professional
10 training, and clinical services in Atlanta, throughout the State of Georgia, and nationally to
11 make sure that older adults and younger persons with mental health disabilities living
12 independently in affordable housing, who are frequently evicted because of mental health
13 related behaviors, get the care they need and to prevent such persons from falling through the
14 cracks; and

15 WHEREAS, the Fuqua Center has established creative public/private partnerships with the
16 Atlanta Housing Authority and the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental
17 Disabilities to support these efforts; and

18 WHEREAS, the Atlanta Area Agency on Aging/Atlanta Regional Commission first
19 established the relationship with the Atlanta Housing Authority, recognizing a need to
20 develop a strategy to get mental health services of all kinds to an aging population in
21 affordable housing; and

22 WHEREAS, the Fuqua Center is making an impact on Metro Atlanta through conducting
23 mental health first aid training; and

24 WHEREAS, on June 10 and 11, 2010, the Fuqua Center conducted a mental health first aid
25 training course for the Atlanta Housing Authority in which 25 AHA staff members and
26 contractors became certified as Mental Health First Aiders at the conclusion of the 12 hour,
27 two-day training session, and because of the training, the participants stated that they were
28 better equipped to both understand the signs and symptoms indicative of mental health issues
29 in an increased number of their residents exhibiting such behaviors as well as how to
30 appropriately approach the person and intervene during a crisis situation; and

31 WHEREAS, the Fuqua Center will also coordinate and implement mental health first aid
32 training sessions in partnership with the Division of Aging of the Department of Human
33 Services for staff members of the Adult Protective Services and Long-Term Care
34 Ombudsman programs, including learning a five-step action plan encompassing the skills,
35 resources, and knowledge to help an individual in crisis connect with appropriate
36 professional, peer, social, and self-help care; and

37 WHEREAS, the J.B. Fuqua Foundation and the Jesse Parker Williams Foundation have
38 committed valuable and critical resources to support the efforts of the Fuqua Center and its
39 partnerships in these efforts; and

40 WHEREAS, it is fitting that this body recognize and encourage the efforts of the Fuqua
41 Center for Late-Life Depression in partnership with the Atlanta Housing Authority, the
42 Atlanta Area Agency on Aging/Atlanta Regional Commission, and the Department of
43 Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and with the support of the J.B. Fuqua
44 Foundation and the Jesse Parker Williams Foundation.

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
46 the members of this body commend the Fuqua Center for Late-Life Depression at Emory
47 University, the Atlanta Housing Authority, the Atlanta Area Agency on Aging/Atlanta
48 Regional Commission, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities,
49 the J.B. Fuqua Foundation, and the Jesse Parker Williams Foundation and invite their
50 representatives to be recognized by the House of Representatives at an appropriate date and
51 time to be designated by the Speaker of the House.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
53 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the representatives of the
54 Fuqua Center for Late-Life Depression at Emory University, the Atlanta Housing Authority,
55 the Atlanta Area Agency on Aging/Atlanta Regional Commission, the Department of

- 56 Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, the J.B. Fuqua Foundation, and the Jesse
- 57 Parker Williams Foundation.