

Senate Resolution 206

By: Senator Albers of the 56th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Georgia's music therapists; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, music therapy is the clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions to
3 accomplish individualized goals within a therapeutic relationship, helping to address
4 physical, psychological, cognitive, and social function in patients of all ages and disabilities;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, music therapists are credentialed professionals who have completed an
7 approved music therapy program; and

8 WHEREAS, the music therapy profession is committed to conducting ongoing research that
9 provides evidence in support of the benefits of music therapy; and

10 WHEREAS, since 1994, music therapy has been identified as a reimbursable service under
11 the benefits for Partial Hospitalization Programs, and under Medicare's Prospective Payment
12 System, music therapy is not billed as a separate service; and

13 WHEREAS, it is estimated that between 10,000 and 12,000 Georgians receive music therapy
14 services each year; and

15 WHEREAS, there are 120 national board-certified music therapists in Georgia employed in
16 residential care facilities, schools, general medical hospitals, adult day centers, geriatric
17 facilities, behavioral and mental health agencies, and private practice; and

18 WHEREAS, Georgia College and State University offers nationally approved bachelor's and
19 master's level music therapy training programs, and the University of Georgia offers a
20 nationally approved bachelor's level music therapy training program; and

21 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia offers four clinical internship sites at Augusta Veteran's
22 Medical Center, Central State Hospital in Milledgeville, Clayton County Public Schools in
23 Jonesboro, and the Fulton County School System in Alpharetta; and

24 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the extraordinary work and dedication
25 of Georgia's music therapists be appropriately recognized.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
27 recognize the benefits of music therapy and commend Georgia's music therapists for
28 improving the lives of countless patients in this state.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
30 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Music Therapy Task Force.