

## House Resolution 620

By: Representatives Houston of the 170<sup>th</sup>, Ralston of the 7<sup>th</sup>, Carter of the 175<sup>th</sup>, Shaw of the 176<sup>th</sup>, and Black of the 174<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating 50 years at the Georgia Sheriffs' Boys' Ranch, commending the Georgia Sheriffs'  
2 Youth Homes, and inviting representatives of the Georgia Sheriffs' Association to be  
3 recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the Georgia Sheriffs' Boys' Ranch was established in 1961 in order to care for  
5 needy children by providing a secure, loving home for the abused, neglected, and abandoned  
6 children of Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, for the past 50 years, the Georgia Sheriffs' Association has committed to a  
8 philosophy and mission of caring for children who need help, first through its Boys' Ranch  
9 and now through the program's Youth Homes, which provides care to both boys and girls;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes have expanded over the years to now  
12 include the Pineland campus and Camp Pioneer in LaGrange, MountainView in Chatsworth,  
13 Cherokee Estate in Dalton, and Herrington Homestead near Swainsboro; and

14 WHEREAS, what opened with six boys in 1961 has grown to serve 143 children in the  
15 residential program in 2010, with an additional 1,159 children attending Camp Pioneer's  
16 summer camp program; and

17 WHEREAS, focused on education, all of the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes that house  
18 children aged 14 and over are involved in independent living classes sponsored by local  
19 agencies; and

20 WHEREAS, young people living at Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes receive medical and  
21 dental care, annual physical and mental exams, access to employment and work skills  
22 programs, and exposure to exciting trips and activities around this state; and

23 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding work of the Georgia  
24 Sheriffs' Youth Homes and its numerous contributions to the needy children of this state be  
25 appropriately recognized.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
27 the members of this body congratulate the Georgia Sheriffs' Boys' Ranch on 50 years of  
28 service to children in need, commend the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes for improving the  
29 lives of numerous children in this state, and invite representatives from the Georgia Sheriffs'  
30 Association to be recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time to be  
31 determined by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
33 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Sheriffs'  
34 Association.