

Senate Resolution 794

By: Senators Grant of the 25th, Carter of the 1st, Unterman of the 45th and Hill of the 4th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation, the CSX Corporation,
2 and the Pineland, Gateway, and Satilla Community Service Boards; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, mental illness is a serious medical condition that affects children, adolescents,
4 adults, and the elderly; and

5 WHEREAS, mental health is essential to one's overall health and well-being, and mental
6 illness will strike one in five adults each year regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity,
7 religion, or economic status; and

8 WHEREAS, the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation, the CSX Corporation, and the Pineland,
9 Gateway, and Satilla Community Service Boards, along with their Community Navigation
10 Specialists (CNS), have funded and are implementing a public-private nonprofit partnership
11 called the Opening Doors to Recovery Research Project (ODR); and

12 WHEREAS, the ODR Research Project is designed to improve the lives of citizens with
13 serious mental illness in Behavioral Health Region 5 who have had repeated episodes of
14 hospitalization, incarceration, and homelessness by providing services in the community with
15 intensive case management; and

16 WHEREAS, through the generous contributions of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation, the
17 CSX Corporation, and the Pineland, Gateway, and Satilla Community Service Boards, the
18 ODR Research Project in collaboration with the Department of Behavioral Health and
19 Developmental Disabilities provides Community Navigation Specialists (Navigators) to
20 effectively and humanely help 100 of the most vulnerable citizens who have had multiple
21 admissions to Georgia Regional Hospital Savannah achieve recovery; and

22 WHEREAS, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Georgia has collaborated with
23 stakeholders in Behavioral Health Region 5 and has committed to finding solutions to

24 Georgia's fragmented mental health system and to educating the public on mental health
25 needs and services through this private-public nonprofit partnership; and

26 WHEREAS, the NAMI Georgia and the CNS through the ODR Research Project are
27 committed to de-stigmatizing mental illness and finding solutions to open doors to recovery
28 by using the resources provided by the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation, the CSX
29 Corporation, and the Pineland, Gateway, and Satilla Community Service Boards, and the
30 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 join in recognizing and commending the outstanding leadership and contributions of the
33 Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation, the CSX Corporation, and the Pineland, Gateway, and
34 Satilla Community Service Boards.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation,
37 the CSX Corporation, and the Pineland, Gateway, and Satilla Community Service Boards.