

House Resolution 1648

By: Representatives Ashe of the 56th, Coleman of the 97th, Talton of the 145th, Oliver of the 83rd, Stephens of the 164th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Normer Adams, Executive Director of the Georgia Association of Homes and
2 Services for Children; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Association of Homes and Services for Children's (GAHSC)
4 mission is to support at-risk children by strengthening the agencies that serve these children;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, GAHSC is dependent on the efforts of dedicated volunteers and staff to carry
7 out the mission of the association; and

8 WHEREAS, GAHSC desires to recognize from time to time the accomplishments and efforts
9 of its loyal staff and volunteers; and

10 WHEREAS, in August of 1991, Normer Adams began his service as executive director with
11 the then named Georgia Residential Child Care Association (GRCCA); and

12 WHEREAS, his attributes of hard work, sense for public policy, background as a licensed
13 marriage and family therapist, speaking and writing skills, and ethical, philosophical, and
14 experiential commitment to children and family well-being have served the association well;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, GRCCA understood the importance of work with children and families in more
17 than a residential setting, so it expanded its focus to include all services to children by
18 reflecting it in its name, the Georgia Association of Homes and Services for Children; and

19 WHEREAS, under the leadership of Normer Adams, the association grew in numbers and
20 influence and is seen by public policy leaders, the Governor's office, legislators, and other
21 leaders as the premier private child welfare provider group for representing at-risk children
22 and service providers in Georgia; and

23 WHEREAS, shepherded by the leadership of Normer Adams, GAHSC has embarked on a
24 series of strategic initiatives that helped create such public policy creations as the
25 Multi-Agency Alliance for Children (MAAC), Inc., Community of Care, Georgia's First
26 Placement/Best Placement, the Level of Care Placement Systems, and Systems of Care; and

27 WHEREAS, his work in supporting family centered practice has furthered the work of all
28 child serving agencies in preventing children from coming into care and keeping them safer
29 in their families of origin, while supporting these families in the care of their children; and

30 WHEREAS, his advocacy and lobbying efforts have furthered community engagement of
31 Georgia's foster care system from 5 percent in 1991 to more than 50 percent in 2011, and
32 family support and behavioral health services have shifted from exclusive government
33 providers to mostly community based providers; and

34 WHEREAS, his advocacy has provided a voice for at-risk children where before there was
35 little; and

36 WHEREAS, thanks to his dedicated work and his advocacy for responsible public child
37 welfare and juvenile justice policy, countless numbers of at-risk children are safer today and
38 better systems are in place; and

39 WHEREAS, Normer Adams has served the association for 20 years and has contributed
40 immensely to its growth, strength, and influence for at-risk children and children and family
41 serving agencies.

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
43 the members of this body recognize Normer Adams and celebrate his 20 years of dedicated
44 service to the Georgia Association of Homes and Services for Children.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
46 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Normer Adams.