

House Resolution 70

By: Representative Ralston of the 7th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) in Georgia for 25 years of service
2 and inviting Court Appointed Special Advocates to be recognized by the House of
3 Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Georgia CASA, founded in 1988, is an organization established to develop and
5 support affiliate programs that provide volunteer advocacy for abused and neglected children
6 involved in juvenile court deprivation proceedings; and

7 WHEREAS, since its founding, 46 affiliate CASA programs in Georgia have been
8 established and over 20,000 CASA volunteers have advocated for over 93,000 children
9 throughout the State of Georgia; and

10 WHEREAS, CASA is central to fulfilling society's most fundamental obligation by making
11 sure a qualified, compassionate adult will fight for and protect a child's right to be safe, to
12 be treated with dignity and respect, and to learn and grow in the safe embrace of a loving
13 family; and

14 WHEREAS, a CASA advocate is a deeply committed, specially trained volunteer who works
15 within the child welfare system and is appointed by the juvenile court judge to provide
16 individualized attention and bring urgency to a child's needs; and

17 WHEREAS, for 25 years, juvenile court judges have invited community volunteers into
18 courtrooms across the state to advocate for children.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
20 the members of this body recognize Court Appointed Special Advocates in Georgia for 25
21 years of giving selflessly of their time and talents to advocate for the best interests of children
22 in juvenile court proceedings; commend board members and staff of Georgia CASA and the
23 affiliate CASA programs for their countless contributions made on behalf of Georgia's

24 children; and invite Court Appointed Special Advocates to be recognized by the House of
25 Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the Speaker of the House.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
27 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Court
28 Appointed Special Advocates.