

Senate Resolution 1183

By: Senator McKoon of the 29th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 6, 2014, as Georgia Justice Project Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, for more than 25 years, the Georgia Justice Project (GJP) has developed a
4 comprehensive grouping of services, coupling holistic legal defense and social services with
5 advocacy support, to address the barriers to economic stability faced by the criminally
6 accused; and

7 WHEREAS, the Georgia Justice Project serves the lowest-wealth individuals in the
8 community who are also at the highest risk for criminal involvement; and

9 WHEREAS, the Georgia Justice Project has four unique programs serving individuals who
10 have criminal issues facing them, including holistic indigent defense, criminal records
11 counseling and correction, social services, including visiting those in prison, and employment
12 support; and

13 WHEREAS, building on its years of direct service to those in need, the Georgia Justice
14 Project works with legislators and others to advocate for common-sense changes to the laws
15 on collateral consequences; and

16 WHEREAS, through its programs and advocacy, the GJP achieves outstanding and
17 cost-effective results, including much lower-than-average incarceration and recidivism rates
18 and an increased awareness about the adverse impact of a criminal record on individuals and
19 our communities; and

20 WHEREAS, through its fine work the GJP has been recognized for its efforts by many
21 organizations, including becoming a recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Community
22 Service Award from Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health and the Goizueta
23 Business School; and

24 WHEREAS, through wonderful financial support from a number of corporations and
25 foundations, such as the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, the Community Foundation for
26 Greater Atlanta, the Tull Charitable Foundation, the Coca-Cola Company, UPS, and the
27 Sapelo Foundation and many others, the Georgia Justice Project can serve its many clients;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, to engage students in its work, the GJP has academic partnerships with schools
30 across the country, including prominent Georgia institutions like Emory University, John
31 Marshall School of Law, Georgia State University, and Mercer University; and

32 WHEREAS, it is honored to have the support of many local law firms including Alston &
33 Bird, Bondurant Mixson & Elmore, Jones Day, King & Spalding, Nelson Mullins Riley &
34 Scarborough, Parker Hudson Rainer & Dobbs, Sutherland Asbill & Brennan, and many
35 others; and

36 WHEREAS, the Georgia Justice Project has been a nationally recognized entity for its
37 innovation and impact to individuals and the community; and

38 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
39 distinguished organization, including the agency's staff and volunteers, be appropriately
40 recognized for the services it provides to Georgians.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
42 honor and commend the Georgia Justice Project for the many years of efficient, effective,
43 unselfish, and dedicated public service to the citizens of this state and recognize March 6,
44 2014, as Georgia Justice Project Day at the state capitol.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
46 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Justice Project.