

Senate Resolution 1252

By: Senator Staton of the 18th

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring and commending the good work of Camp MAGIK and its founder, Dr. Irene
- 2 Searles McClatchey; and for other purposes.
- 3 WHEREAS, after extensive work in social work and hospice, Dr. Irene Searles McClatchey,
- 4 Ph.D., LCSW, founded Camp MAGIK in 1995, aimed at facilitating the healing process for
- 5 children who have lost loved ones; and
- 6 WHEREAS, having lost her father in her teen years, Dr. McClatchey has a strong passion
- 7 for helping children who have suffered the loss of a parent or loved one and has made it her
- 8 life's work to facilitate the healing process for children experiencing such grief; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Dr. McClatchey earned her Ph.D. in social work from the University of
- 10 Georgia, and her commitment to helping children experiencing grief led her to develop new
- 11 treatment tools and to further her knowledge through studies and research; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Camp MAGIK provides a safe, nurturing environment where children can
- 13 express their grief over the death of a loved one and receive much needed counseling and
- 14 care; and
- 15 WHEREAS, while at Camp MAGIK, campers receive experienced professional counseling
- 16 while participating in camp activities, including canoeing, hiking, rope courses, and more;
- 17 and
- 18 WHEREAS, during the organization's inaugural year, 17 children participated, and since
- 19 then, the number of children served has grown exponentially as the camp now serves around
- 20 200 children during three to four camp sessions a year; and
- 21 WHEREAS, over nearly two decades of service, Camp MAGIK has provided grief
- 22 counseling for approximately 2,500 children; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. McClatchey has truly been a pioneer in her studies of childhood grief and  
24 adolescent suicide and has been recognized nation wide for her knowledge and field  
25 expertise; and

26 WHEREAS, Camp MAGIK was awarded the Edie Kline Award for Program Excellence in  
27 recognition of exceptional camp programs in the Southeast, largely due to the camp's unique,  
28 creative, and imaginative planning; and

29 WHEREAS, due to her tireless and far-reaching work in this area, Dr. McClatchey has been  
30 awarded the University of Georgia's Dissertation Award, University of Georgia's Teaching  
31 Assistant of the Year Award, and Kennesaw State University Master of Social Works  
32 Program's Professor of the Year Award.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
34 commend the diligent and much needed work of Camp MAGIK and its founder, Dr. Irene  
35 Searles McClatchey, for the great services the organization has provided to the young  
36 children of this state in dealing with grief.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
38 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Dr. Irene Searles McClatchey.