

Senate Resolution 53

By: Senator Orrock of the 36th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 20, 2015, as Multi-Agency Alliance for Children Day at the state  
2 capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 1996, a group of nonprofit agencies serving children gathered and founded  
4 what is now known as the collaborative nonprofit entity, Multi-Agency Alliance for Children  
5 ("MAAC"); and

6 WHEREAS, the current member entities of MAAC are CHRIS Kids, Creative Community  
7 Services, Inc., Devereux Georgia Treatment Network, Georgia Baptist Children's Homes and  
8 Family Ministries, Inc., Georgia Elks Aidmore Children's Center, Hillside, Inc., The  
9 Methodist Homes, Twin Cedars Youth and Family Services, and Youth Villages; and

10 WHEREAS, each of MAAC's member entities and affiliates utilizes national best practices  
11 and has accreditation from a national accreditation body; and

12 WHEREAS, MAAC created a seamless continuum of services and care addressing all the  
13 needs of the child, adolescent, and family, including behavioral health services to some of  
14 Georgia's most troubled or difficult children, reducing the number of treatment "failures" and  
15 multiple placements of children in various out-of-home care settings; and

16 WHEREAS, MAAC has utilized this care continuum working closely to serve children from  
17 all parts of Georgia; and

18 WHEREAS, each of the member entities and affiliates retains their individuality and  
19 expertise in the populations that they serve and strives to eliminate the duplication of services  
20 across multiple agencies; and

21 WHEREAS, MAAC and its member agencies and affiliates work closely with the  
22 Departments of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Community Health,

23 Education, Human Services, and Juvenile Justice to provide services to Georgia's children,  
24 adolescents, and families in need; and

25 WHEREAS, MAAC, through its member entities and affiliates, provides a variety of services  
26 to these children, adolescents, and families, including residential care, emergency shelter,  
27 intensive in-home, wrap-around, family foster care, group home, independent living, and  
28 intensive psychiatric care; and

29 WHEREAS, MAAC's members and affiliates also provide for other supports such as  
30 adoption, maternity care, prescriptive educational services, respite care, and other services;  
31 and

32 WHEREAS, MAAC oversees Georgia Empowerment, the youth-led advocacy movement  
33 with strong adult support, which is motivated by changing the foster care system; and

34 WHEREAS, MAAC has been recognized by children's entities and others and was most  
35 recently presented by the Voices for Georgia's Children the 2014 Big Voice for Children  
36 Award; and

37 WHEREAS, MAAC also was named as one of the 15 exemplary national programs serving  
38 adolescents in foster care by Youth Thrive, an initiative of the Center for the Study of Social  
39 Policy; and

40 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
41 distinguished organization, including their member entities and affiliates, be appropriately  
42 recognized for the care it provides to Georgians.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
44 honor and commend the Multi-Agency Alliance for Children and its member entities and  
45 affiliates for their tireless, efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated public service to the  
46 children, adolescents, and families of this state and recognize January 20, 2015, as  
47 Multi-Agency Alliance for Children Day at the state capitol.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
49 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to representatives of  
50 the Multi-Agency Alliance for Children.