

## Senate Resolution 708

By: Senators Millar of the 40th, Sims of the 12th and Rhett of the 33rd

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 20, 2016, as Together Georgia Day at the state capitol; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Together Georgia, a nonprofit alliance of service providers, began originally  
4 as the Georgia Association of Homes and Services for Children more than 50 years ago; and

5 WHEREAS, Together Georgia is composed of almost 100 provider partners across Georgia,  
6 including family preservation and support programs, education programs, psychiatric  
7 residential treatment facilities, adoption and maternity homes, family foster care, therapeutic  
8 foster care, community group homes, emergency care, outdoor therapeutic programs, and  
9 independent living and aftercare programs for children and youth aging out of the state's  
10 system; and

11 WHEREAS, Together Georgia's partners provide care to Georgia's most vulnerable children  
12 and youth and their families; and

13 WHEREAS, Together Georgia's partners struggle annually to provide services to Georgia's  
14 children which have grown in number with enhanced safety measures implemented, often  
15 requiring the request of capital from philanthropic entities, individuals, and communities; and

16 WHEREAS, Together Georgia serves as a voice for its partners to help stretch, and seek new,  
17 valuable resources for these services provided to the abused and neglected children in our  
18 state; and

19 WHEREAS, Together Georgia consistently participates and collaborates with state agencies  
20 to facilitate improving services and programs for children and youth and their families; and

21 WHEREAS, Together Georgia provides a number of other services to assist its partners in  
22 better caring for Georgia's children and youth in addition to lobby and advocacy work,

23 providing research and information on current issues and trends in child welfare, back office  
24 solutions and purchasing resources, and professional development and consulting for its  
25 partners; and

26 WHEREAS, Together Georgia hosts the annual Georgia Children and Families Conference  
27 to better inform its partners and those working in child welfare of trends and to permit  
28 entities and individuals an opportunity to meet with care management organizations  
29 providing health care to Georgia's children, state agencies including the Division of Family  
30 and Children's Services and the Departments of Community Health and Juvenile Justice,  
31 service providers, and many others who are interested in child welfare issues; and

32 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
33 distinguished organization, its staff, and its volunteers be appropriately recognized for their  
34 dedication and work to better the lives of Georgia's children and youth and their families.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
36 extend a warm greeting to Together Georgia, its staff, its provider partners, and its volunteers  
37 and convey to them our heartiest commendation for their past, present, and future work on  
38 behalf of children and youth and their families in this state.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
40 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Together Georgia.