

House Resolution 1378

By: Representatives Coleman of the 97th, Greene of the 151st, Kaiser of the 59th, Dudgeon of the 25th, Clark of the 101st, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the School Social Workers Association of Georgia, Inc., for its work; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, each year thousands of children in Georgia's schools and their families utilize
4 the services of school social workers who have obtained at least a master's degree and many
5 of whom are licensed clinical social workers and were themselves educated in Georgia's
6 institutions of higher learning; and

7 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia, Inc., is a nonprofit entity
8 with a robust membership of individuals who reside and work across our state; and

9 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia, Inc., has been in existence
10 since 1971 and is a collaborative member of the National Association of Social Workers; and

11 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia, Inc., works to enhance its
12 members' profession so they can better serve our state's children, advocating for its
13 membership on various issues of interest including the provision of mental health services
14 such as suicide prevention care, improving the economic and environmental conditions in
15 which students and their families live, assisting students with special needs and their
16 families, and general matters around social workers' salaries and benefits; and

17 WHEREAS, among the mental health services provided by school social workers are
18 individual crisis intervention; psychosocial mental health assessments; family outreach and
19 engagement; ongoing mental health monitoring and individual and group counseling; case
20 management and coordination of school and community resources; assistance with the
21 development of positive behavioral interventions and supports; and facilitation of
22 professional development training for educators on coping positively with a student's mental
23 health struggles; and

24 WHEREAS, social workers in school settings are not always employed in every county or
25 city school system because their positions are funded through discretionary funds; and

26 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia, Inc., provides a number of
27 benefits to its members, including the provision of a newsletter, opportunities to receive
28 professional learning units and continuing education units at annual conferences, mentoring
29 programs for members, and more; and

30 WHEREAS, the association's members serve many children and their families daily to help
31 improve the lives of Georgia's children and improve the attendance and graduation rates of
32 Georgia's students.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body commend the School Social Workers Association of Georgia, Inc.,
35 and its members for their work to meet the mental health needs of Georgia's students and to
36 improve Georgia's educational system, students' learning environments, and the attendance
37 and graduation rates of its youth.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
39 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
40 School Social Workers Association of Georgia, Inc.