

## Senate Resolution 41

By: Senators Dugan of the 30th, Unterman of the 45th, Tippins of the 37th, Brass of the 28th, Tillery of the 19th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the REACH Georgia program coordinators, mentors, academic coaches, and  
2 supporters for their dedicated service to the lives of our REACH Scholars and recognizing  
3 January 25, 2017, as REACH Georgia Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen (REACH) Georgia is a  
5 public-private mentorship and needs based scholarship program designed to promote  
6 academic success and increase access to, and completion of, postsecondary education; and

7 WHEREAS, education is a crucial asset for every individual and is a strong determinant of  
8 overall success; by the year 2025, projections estimate that 60 percent of jobs in Georgia will  
9 require a college certificate or degree, making programs like REACH Georgia increasingly  
10 critical to prepare our youth so that they have the opportunity to not only attend college but  
11 also obtain a credential upon completion; and

12 WHEREAS, upon completion of high school, REACH Georgia awards program participants,  
13 REACH Scholars, a scholarship of up to \$10,000, \$2,500 each year for up to four years, to  
14 be used at a HOPE-eligible two-year or four-year institution; and

15 WHEREAS, many colleges have pledged to match or double-match the scholarship,  
16 providing scholars with additional resources for their college education and further ensuring  
17 success; and

18 WHEREAS, members of civic, corporate, and faith based communities throughout the state  
19 are coming together to volunteer through REACH Georgia by funding scholarships, serving  
20 as mentors and tutors, and providing college and career counseling to REACH Scholars; and

21 WHEREAS, five years after the launch as a key component of the Complete College Georgia  
22 Initiative, 685 students in 69 school districts are participating in the REACH Georgia  
23 program; and

24 WHEREAS, these students now find themselves better prepared to graduate high school,  
25 enroll in a postsecondary institution, and return as successful citizens to our communities and  
26 work force.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
28 commend the REACH Georgia program coordinators, mentors, academic coaches, and  
29 supporters for their dedicated service to the lives of our REACH Scholars and recognize  
30 January 25, 2017, as REACH Georgia Day at the state capitol.

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