

House Resolution 374

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57th, Oliver of the 82nd, Dreyer of the 59th, Glanton of the 75th, and Waites of the 60th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending Dr. James F. DeGroot for his outstanding work; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Dr. James F. DeGroot has long been recognized by the citizens of this state for
3 the vital role that he has played in leadership and his deep personal commitment to the
4 welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and
- 5 WHEREAS, he has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time,
6 talents, and energy toward the betterment of his community and state as evidenced
7 dramatically by his superlative service with Georgia's Department of Corrections; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Dr. DeGroot has been the Director of Mental Health for Georgia's Department
9 of Corrections for 16 years; and
- 10 WHEREAS, he has played a key role in updating and implementing Georgia's Correctional
11 Mental Health policies and procedures during civil rights class action lawsuits from
12 1994-1998 and 2002-2004; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Dr. DeGroot has dedicated his career to focusing on the delivery of mental
14 health care within Georgia's prisons and has been involved in a number of initiatives to lower
15 the incarceration rate of mental health consumers and enhance reentry programs; and
- 16 WHEREAS, this distinguished gentleman has given inspiration to many through his high
17 ideals, morals, and deep concern for his fellow citizens, and he possesses the vast wisdom
18 which only comes through experience and strength of character; and
- 19 WHEREAS, he is a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation for
20 integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. DeGroot has served with honor and distinction with Georgia's Department
22 of Corrections, and his vision and unyielding commitment to improving the quality of mental
23 health care in Georgia's prisons have set the standard for public service; and

24 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
25 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
27 the members of this body recognize and commend Dr. James F. DeGroot for his efficient,
28 effective, unselfish, and dedicated public service to the State of Georgia.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
30 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
31 Dr. James F. DeGroot.