

Senate Resolution 606

By: Senators Tillery of the 19th, Walker III of the 20th and Strickland of the 17th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 17, 2018, as REACH Georgia Day at the state capitol and commending
2 the REACH Georgia program coordinators, mentors, academic coaches, and supporters for
3 their dedicated service to the lives of the REACH Scholars; 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 \$10,000.00, \$2,500.00 each year for up to four
14 years, to 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 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 of Georgia are coming together to volunteer through REACH Georgia by funding
20 scholarships, serving as mentors and tutors, and providing college and career counseling to
21 REACH Scholars; and

22 WHEREAS, five years after the launch as a key component of the Complete College Georgia
23 Initiative, 1,200 students in 103 school districts are participating in the REACH Georgia
24 program; and

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

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
29 recognize January 17, 2018, as REACH Georgia Day at the state capitol and commend the
30 REACH Georgia program coordinators, mentors, academic coaches, and supporters for their
31 dedicated service to the lives of the REACH Scholars.

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