

House Resolution 979

By: Representatives Ballinger of the 23rd, Welch of the 110th, Dempsey of the 13th, and Smith of the 134th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 30, 2018, as Together Georgia Day at the state capitol and commending
2 Together Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Together Georgia is a nonprofit alliance of service providers which provides
4 services and care to Georgia's most vulnerable children and their families; and

5 WHEREAS, Together Georgia originally started more than 50 years ago as the Georgia
6 Association of Homes and Services for Children and has long enjoyed a presence in the state;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Together Georgia is composed of approximately 150 provider partners across
9 this state, including family preservation and support programs, education programs,
10 psychiatric residential treatment facilities, adoption and maternity homes, family foster care,
11 therapeutic foster care, community group homes, emergency care, outdoor therapeutic
12 programs, and independent living and after care programs for children and youth who are
13 aging out of the state's system; and

14 WHEREAS, Together Georgia lends a voice to its partner agencies, which struggle annually
15 to provide services to Georgia's children and often require the request of capital from
16 philanthropic entities, individuals, and other communities in order to meet their financial
17 needs; and

18 WHEREAS, Together Georgia serves as an advocate for its partners in order to help them
19 to stretch and seek new valuable resources for their services so as to provide better care to
20 Georgia's abused and neglected children; and

21 WHEREAS, Together Georgia consistently participates and collaborates with state agencies
22 and other nonprofits in an effort to facilitate and improve services and programs for children,
23 youth, and families; and

24 WHEREAS, Together Georgia seeks to provide research and information on current issues;
25 best practices; trends in child welfare, administrative office solutions, and purchasing
26 resources; and professional development to its member entities; and

27 WHEREAS, Together Georgia hosts the Georgia Children and Families Conference in order
28 to better inform its provider partners and those working in child welfare of the trends
29 currently impacting the provision of services to children and families; and

30 WHEREAS, the Georgia Children and Families Conference provides entities and individuals
31 with an opportunity to meet with care management organizations that provide health care to
32 Georgia's children, which include state agencies such as the Division of Family and Children
33 Services, the Department of Community Health, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and
34 many others that are interested in the topic of child welfare; and

35 WHEREAS, Together Georgia is a servant leader that provides help to those who many
36 would consider to be "the least of these" so that they may have opportunities to become
37 great; and

38 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
39 distinguished organization and its staff, partner entities, and volunteers be appropriately
40 recognized for their dedication and work towards bettering the lives of Georgia's children,
41 youth, and families.

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
43 the members of this body recognize January 30, 2018, as Together Georgia Day at the state
44 capitol and commend Together Georgia, its staff, its provider partners, and its volunteers for
45 their past, present, and future work on behalf of Georgia's children, youth, and families.

46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
47 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
48 Together Georgia.