

House Resolution 1035

By: Representatives Oliver of the 82nd, Cooper of the 43rd, Frye of the 118th, Houston of the 170th, and Brockway of the 102nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending and congratulating Lasa Joiner on the occasion of her retirement; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Lasa Joiner has been professionally involved in Georgia legislative issues for
4 more than 30 years and is known as one of the most effective medical specialty government
5 affairs consultants in the state, particularly for her interest and expertise in mental health
6 issues; and

7 WHEREAS, Lasa was the first woman to serve as chairperson on the Board of the
8 Department of Human Resources, the largest department in state government, and she also
9 chaired the Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Committee as well as
10 the Rehabilitation Services Committee; and

11 WHEREAS, she first began serving as an advocate for and advisor to the Georgia Psychiatric
12 Physicians Association (GPPA) during the 1988 Session of the Georgia General Assembly
13 and became its Executive Director in 2003; and

14 WHEREAS, Lasa is so respected for her leadership that GPPA bestowed her with the 2008
15 Dancing Elephant Award for excellence in administrative leadership; and

16 WHEREAS, renowned for her expertise in government affairs and mental health issues, Lasa
17 was asked in subsequent years to present before the American Psychiatric Association and
18 the APA Governmental Relations and Public Affairs Joint Institute on the topics of
19 association strategic planning and advocacy, respectively; and

20 WHEREAS, due to Lasa's years of outstanding advocacy for psychiatric professionals and
21 their patients and her tireless efforts to improve access to quality mental health care in our
22 state, Georgia is surely a better place for all of its residents, and it is abundantly fitting and
23 proper to recognize the storied career of this distinguished citizen.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
25 the members of this body commend Lasa Joiner for her decades of devoted service to the
26 members of the Georgia Psychiatric Physicians Association and their patients; congratulate
27 her on the occasion of her retirement; and extend sincere best wishes for continued health
28 and happiness.

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 Lasa
31 Joiner.