

Senate Resolution 762

By: Senator Millar of the 40th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Furkids Animal Rescue and Shelters and recognizing February 22, 2018, as
2 Furkids Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Furkids Animal Rescue and Shelters applauds the General Assembly for its
4 designation of the adoptable dog, adopted on March 24, 2016, as the official Dog of Georgia,
5 and heeds its directive to encourage and promote responsible stewardship of dogs, spay and
6 neuter procedures, animal rescues, and adoptions and to shine a light on the serious issue of
7 unwanted and neglected pets throughout Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, Furkids was started in Atlanta on February 22, 2002, by Samantha Shelton, who
9 found a mother cat and her kittens in her backyard and, upon learning that only two no-kill
10 animal shelters existed in the State of Georgia at the time, and that both were full, started
11 Furkids in the hopes of providing more lifesaving options for homeless animals in Georgia;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, since its foundation 16 years ago, Furkids has grown to provide food, shelter,
14 veterinary care, training, and love to 1,000 cats and dogs per day through the efforts of two
15 shelters, 21 adoption centers, and a network of foster caregivers; and

16 WHEREAS, Furkids was named Georgia's largest no-kill animal shelter in 2006; merged
17 with Small Dog Rescue in 2011, expanding its services to dogs and cats alike; and has saved
18 25,000 animals since 2002; and

19 WHEREAS, Furkids is sustained via donations, grants, fundraisers, three thrift stores, and
20 partnerships with Petco, PetSmart, and Pet Supermarket; and

21 WHEREAS, without the generous outpouring of volunteer service, resources, and
22 partnerships of fellow Georgians, veterinarians, and other key contributors, Furkids would
23 not be what it is today; and

24 WHEREAS, Furkids has more than 1,000 active volunteers, welcoming people of all ages
25 and from all walks of life to serve with them, and is the only shelter in Georgia that allows
26 children to volunteer and to experience the healing bond that comes from interacting with
27 animals; and

28 WHEREAS, in a single weekend in 2016, Furkids held the highest number of adoptions out
29 of 3,000 Petco Foundation partner shelters; received the Best in America seal of approval for
30 15 years in a row from Independent Charities of America; received a four-star rating with
31 Charity Navigator in 2017; was chosen from among 50 shelters in 2014 as the Georgia
32 shelter for Miranda Lambert's MuttNation Foundation's Mutts Across America; had a Kitty
33 Kommercial which was the number one trending video on YouTube in 2017 and was viewed
34 by tens of millions of fans throughout the world; has been on the leader board for Georgia
35 Gives Day since its inception in 2012; had the highest number of individual donors in 2012
36 and 2013; won the 2017 *Atlanta Magazine* Give Atlanta Challenge during its inaugural year;
37 and is the only shelter in Georgia that has a sanctuary for cats that test positive for feline
38 immunodeficiency virus (FIV) and feline leukemia virus (FELV); and

39 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the efforts and achievements of this
40 exemplary organization be appropriately recognized.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
42 commend Furkids Animal Rescue and Shelters and recognize February 22, 2018, as Furkids
43 Day at the state capitol.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
45 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Furkids Animal
46 Rescue and Shelters.