

Senate Resolution 998

By: Senators Millar of the 40th and Albers of the 56th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 14, 2018, as Charter School Advocacy Day at the state capitol,
2 commending members of the Georgia Charter Schools Association, and celebrating the 20th
3 anniversary of the passage of legislation which allowed the start-up of charter schools; and
4 for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, charter school law was enacted in 1998 and allowed for the creation of start-up
6 charter schools; and

7 WHEREAS, charter schools are tuition-free, public schools that have the flexibility to be
8 innovative and entrepreneurial for student and operational performance; and

9 WHEREAS, there are 113 charter schools with 86,549 students held accountable
10 academically and financially through their contracts with state and local authorizers, as well
11 as to the students and families they serve; and

12 WHEREAS, charter schools must be secular, have fair and open enrollment procedures, and
13 are required to serve all student populations, including those with disabilities and English
14 language learners; and

15 WHEREAS, the Georgia Charter Schools Association (GCSA) is the membership
16 organization for Georgia's charter school operators and petitioners, established in 2001, and
17 whose mission is to advocate for, foster, and support autonomous, high-quality charter public
18 schools and networks throughout Georgia; and

19 WHEREAS, GCSA membership is open to any charter school developer, petitioner, or
20 operator in the state of Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, GCSA has successfully fought for numerous laws, which have expanded public
22 school options throughout Georgia; teachers and trains more charter school boards in Georgia

23 than any other organization or individual; and offers professional development opportunities
24 for school leaders and teachers.

25 WHEREAS, GCSA's charter school incubator works to address Georgia's educational needs
26 by recruiting top talent to start charter schools in Georgia; the association is the only charter
27 school organization in the nation that offers an alternative certification program for teachers.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
29 recognize March 14, 2018, as Charter School Advocacy Day at the state capitol, commend
30 members of the Georgia Charter Schools Association, and celebrate the 20th anniversary of
31 the passage of legislation which allowed the start-up of charter schools.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to make appropriate copies of this resolution to the Georgia Charter Schools Association, the
34 public, and the press.