

## House Resolution 1526

By: Representatives Hilton of the 95<sup>th</sup>, Hanson of the 80<sup>th</sup>, Cantrell of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Jones of the 25<sup>th</sup>, Stovall of the 74<sup>th</sup>, and others

## 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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
29 the members of this body recognize March 14, 2018, as Charter School Advocacy Day at the  
30 state capitol, commend members of the Georgia Charter Schools Association, and celebrate  
31 the 20th anniversary of the passage of legislation which allowed the start-up of charter  
32 schools.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
34 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution to the Georgia Charter Schools  
35 Association, the public, and the press.