

House Resolution 1629

By: Representatives England of the 116th, Ralston of the 7th, Burns of the 159th, Jones of the 47th, Ehrhart of the 36th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mr. Chris Riley for his exceptional service to the State of Georgia; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Chris Riley is an exceptional Georgia citizen and a proud Gainesville native
4 who serves as Chief of Staff to Governor Nathan Deal; and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Riley has worked for Nathan Deal for more than 28 years, from the halls
6 of Congress in Washington, D.C., to the Governor's Mansion, in service to both the State of
7 Georgia and the United States of America; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Riley began his career by putting up yard signs for the 1992 election, yet
9 today he now oversees the implementation of a \$26 billion state budget; and

10 WHEREAS, with Mr. Riley by his side, Governor Deal guided Georgia to earn and maintain
11 its ranking as the number one state for business for five consecutive years, oversaw the
12 creation of more than 700,000 new private sector jobs, and helped to preserve Georgia's
13 AAA bond ratings by all three major municipal bond rating agencies; and

14 WHEREAS, many have questioned whether Mr. Riley lives at the State Capitol, as he
15 usually arrives by 6:00 A.M. and often stays after the last cars have left the South Deck; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Riley is blessed with a "steel trap memory" and can recall the reasoning,
17 background, and rationale behind each vote of Congressman Deal and every veto by
18 Governor Deal; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Riley has also proven his exceptional physical acumen by completing the
20 Ironman despite undergoing surgery on his collarbone just months before the triathlon, in
21 preparation for which he swam 18.3 hours, biked 2,273 miles, and ran 769 miles, for a total
22 of 237.3 hours of training over a ten-month period; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Riley is a Georgia country boy at heart, although legislators have
24 previously questioned whether the bovine manure on his boots was genuine; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Riley flew Governor Deal for years as his personal pilot and has earned the
26 appreciation of many in the field of aviation for his extensive efforts to upgrade air traffic
27 infrastructure and improve air travel accessibility for communities across the state; today,
28 Georgia boasts some of the nation's finest public safety aircraft as a result of his diligent
29 efforts; and

30 WHEREAS, Mr. Riley is well versed in fiscal conservatism and can go toe-to-toe with
31 anyone on the state's budget; and

32 WHEREAS, through his time in public service, Mr. Riley has both served and become a true
33 friend to his fellow citizens from the Blue Ridge mountains to the Golden Isles, from
34 Columbus to the pristine greens of Augusta National; and

35 WHEREAS, Mr. Riley has demonstrated exceptional loyalty not only to Governor Deal but
36 also to all who work in the Governor's Office and the state's executive branch; his loyalty
37 extends to senior staffers, junior policy advisers, and agency heads alike; and

38 WHEREAS, for almost three decades, Mr. Riley has faithfully supported and loyally served
39 Governor Deal and, by extension, the people of the great State of Georgia; and

40 WHEREAS, the only passion greater than that which Mr. Riley demonstrates in service to
41 his fellow Georgians is his love for his wife, Bambi, and his sons, Austin and Jake.

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
43 the members of this body commend Mr. Chris Riley for his exceptional service to the State
44 of Georgia.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
46 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Mr.
47 Chris Riley.