

House Resolution 527

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57th, Buckner of the 137th, and Rynders of the 152nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 13, 2019, as The Arc Georgia Day at the state capitol; and commending
2 the contributions of The Arc Georgia's local chapters, members, and community supporters
3 who work alongside those with intellectual disabilities and/or developmental disabilities; and
4 for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, millions of Americans have an intellectual and/or developmental disability,
6 including over 300,000 Georgians; and

7 WHEREAS, The Arc Georgia state office and chapters throughout the state have developed
8 programs and advocated for public policy to support people with intellectual and/or
9 developmental disabilities to learn, live, and work inclusively in their communities for more
10 than 60 years; and

11 WHEREAS, The Arc Georgia state office ensures community inclusion of people with
12 intellectual and/or developmental disabilities by partnering with Georgia agencies to support
13 events and programs, like the Wings for All event in partnership with Hartsfield-Jackson
14 Airport and Delta, which provides simulated airport experiences for children with disabilities
15 and their families to ease the often burdensome travel process; and

16 WHEREAS, The Arc Georgia state office partnered with the Department of Behavioral
17 Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) to hold the first state agency sponsored,
18 inclusive symposium in Georgia, providing learning opportunities for people with and
19 without disabilities; and

20 WHEREAS, The Arc Georgia state office initiated and supported the development of HB
21 343 (2017-2018 session) to replace outdated, offensive language in the Georgia code with
22 the updated terminology, intellectual disability; and

23 WHEREAS, The Arc Georgia chapters offer a variety of services, including Project Arc, a
24 case management system at Albany ARC that supports hundreds of people with intellectual
25 and/or developmental disabilities to live and work in the Albany community, and Supported
26 Employment, a program offered through The Arc Macon and The Arc of Douglas County
27 that supports hundreds of people to have meaningful employment in their communities; and

28 WHEREAS, The Arc Georgia chapters also offer autism services, adult day programs,
29 community living supports, and preschool services in underserved areas to thousands of
30 people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities across the state.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body recognize March 13, 2019, as The Arc Georgia Day at the state
33 capitol; extend a warm greeting to its staff, local chapters, members, and people who are
34 supported by their programs; and commend them for their past, present, and future
35 contributions to ensuring truly inclusive communities for all Georgians.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
38 public and the press.