Senate Resolution 457

By: Senator Mullis of the 53rd

A RESOLUTION

1   Commending the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta's therapy dogs known as "Canines For

2   Kids," and for the retirement of their first therapy dog, Casper; and for other purposes.

3   WHEREAS, the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Canines For Kids Program was established

4   in 2009; and

5   WHEREAS, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta employs 16 full-time facility dogs in various

6   departments at Egleston, Scottish Rite and the Marcus Autism Center; and

7   WHEREAS, facility dogs undergo a comprehensive and intensive training process for a

8   duration of 18 months; and

9   WHEREAS, Casper, a Golden Retriever born on December 11, 2007, was the first-ever

10 facility dog at a pediatric hospital; and

11 WHEREAS, along with his handler, Lisa Kinsel, Casper pioneered a hospital-based

12 community service dog program, Canines For Kids, in which other children's hospitals across

13 the country now replicate the model and best practices gained from our program at their own

14 institutions; and

15 WHEREAS, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Canines For Kids program has had a positive

16 impact on the emotional well-being and physical health of patients; and

17 WHEREAS, Children's Facility dogs provide support and accompaniment during procedures,

18 motivation to reach therapeutic and treatment goals, and promote coping, normalization, and

19 engagement; and

20 WHEREAS, Casper, after more than nine years of service, along with Lisa, retired in 2018

21 having touched the lives of countless patients.

22   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body

23   commend Casper, Lisa Kinsel, and the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta therapy dogs, known

24   as "Canines for Kids."

25   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed

26   to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Children's

27   Healthcare of Atlanta.