

Senate Resolution 620

By: Senators Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Albers of the 56th, Rhett of the 33rd, Howard of the 35th, Setzler of the 37th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Leadership Cobb and the Leadership Cobb Class of 2026; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Leadership Cobb was founded in 1983 by a nucleus of leaders in order to train
4 a new group of leaders to guide Cobb County's future; and

5 WHEREAS, Leadership Cobb owes a special debt of gratitude to its founders, Harris Hines,
6 Johnny Isakson, Phil Sanders, and Jay Whorton, and their vision for Cobb County, as well
7 as the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce for its continued support of the program; and

8 WHEREAS, Leadership Cobb, from hundreds of qualified applications, selected only 50
9 diverse and exceptionally qualified individuals for the Class of 2026 to provide a learning
10 environment that enhances personal and professional growth designed to benefit the
11 individual, their local community, and the entire Atlanta region; and

12 WHEREAS, the time commitment includes eight full-day sessions from September to May,
13 four evening sessions, two three-day retreats, as well as time to attend Spotlight on
14 Leadership programs, participation in community engagement, homework to prepare for

15 upcoming sessions, and a graduation ceremony, all of which require serious dedication, but
16 all of which help the participants become more engaged citizens; and

17 WHEREAS, the Leadership Cobb Class of 2026 is led by Leadership Cobb Alumni including
18 Chairs Joyette Holmes, and Eddie Wade, and Vice Chairs Tricia Newton and Andy Gaines,
19 with assistance from Kai Lawrence from the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce, and
20 dozens of alumni who volunteer for committees to plan each program day and for 2026 Class
21 members, including community and business leaders Kimberly Allred, Kate Beasley, Priti
22 Bhatia, Mike Bonnette, Nicholas Booth, Tonya Byrd, Carl Carlson, Lauren Cedor, Chase
23 Clark, Vic Collins, Christina Cummings, Rodney Drinkard, David Esterline, Richard
24 Freeman, Chuck Gardner, Jenn Garner, Jessica Guinn, Jules Harper, Gina V. Hawkins, Karen
25 Heard, Tim Henderson, Molly Holm, Amanda Hughes, Stephanie Idland, Simon Janman,
26 Keisha Jeffcoat, Kyle Johnstone, Shea Konigsmark, Rachel Langelotti, Kyoung Lee, Kafi
27 London, Toby Mabry, Christopher McKellar, Daniel McKinney, Tomeca Mosley, Ben
28 Needle, Scott Orr, Gina Owens, Tahnicia Phillips, Paul Powers, Brian Rutledge, Courtney
29 Santry, Alisha Thomas Searcy, Abby Smith, Andy Stearns, Zach Strickland, Darrell Sutton,
30 Jaret Usher, Ryan Varchetti, Dan Vasquenza, Heather Walker, Ashley West, Anthony White,
31 Megan Will, LaTonya Williams, Jordan Wilson, Laurie Ann Wong-Burns, Crystal Wyche,
32 and Darrell Young; and

33 WHEREAS, the Leadership Cobb Government Day Committee comprised of Leadership
34 Cobb Alumni, Sonya Allen, Benjamin Andrews, Teri Anulewicz, Maranie Brown, Nancy
35 Couch, Angie Davis, Ashley Jenkins, Brian Johnson, Jennifer McNeely, Michael Owens,
36 Amanda Seals, Jason Shepherd, Casey Tanner, and Greg Teague, and led by Co-Chairs Bert
37 Reeves and Jackie McMorris have put together a program where the Leadership Cobb Class
38 of 2026 will spend January 18, 2026, learning more about how their government works and
39 operates, better equipping them to be even more engaged citizens; and

40 WHEREAS, the Leadership Cobb Class of 2026's motto of "Lead the Way" will ensure that
41 the lessons the Class takes away from their Leadership Cobb experience will allow them to
42 approach the future to see clearly their role in creating a better Cobb County community.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
44 recognize and commend Leadership Cobb and the members of the Leadership Cobb Class
45 of 2026 for their dedication to community service and their commitment to improving
46 opportunities for local citizens.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
48 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Leadership Cobb
49 and the Leadership Cobb Class of 2026.