

House Resolution 1059

By: Representatives Dubnik of the 29th, Dempsey of the 13th, and Schofield of the 63rd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring Reach Out and Read Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Reach Out and Read's model reflects a powerful understanding that the
3 pediatric exam room is one of the earliest and most trusted settings for supporting a child's
4 development; and
- 5 WHEREAS, during well-child visits from birth to age 5, clinicians, in partnership with Reach
6 Out and Read, provide families with new, age-appropriate books and model shared-reading
7 practices, showing how the simple act of reading together can strengthen parent-child
8 relationships, build early language skills, and lay the foundation for lifelong learning; and
- 9 WHEREAS, in 2025, Reach Out and Read supported 11.2 million well-child visits
10 nationwide, reaching 4.8 million children and distributing 9 million books to families across
11 the United States, including more than 187,926 children and families in Georgia; and
- 12 WHEREAS, over the past 12 months, 422,372 well child checkups were conducted across
13 92 counties in Georgia with pediatricians, home visitors, and providers implementing the
14 Reach Out and Read program; and

15 WHEREAS, in that same time, 307,408 new children's books were prescribed and distributed
16 across 222 children's hospitals, pediatric practices, and home visiting programs; and

17 WHEREAS, since the program began in 1996, more than 3,248,426 new children's books
18 have been given to young children in Georgia by pediatric providers; and

19 WHEREAS, Reach Out and Read has the ability to serve as the intersection of education and
20 healthcare, offering unprecedented access to the pediatric community, children, and families.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
22 the members of this body commend the efforts of Reach Out and Read to give young
23 children a foundation for success by incorporating books into the existing pediatric care
24 infrastructure and encourage families in Georgia to read aloud together each and every day.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
26 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Reach
27 Out and Read Georgia.