

Senate Resolution 898

By: Senators Orrock of the 36th, Kemp of the 38th, Harrell of the 40th, James of the 28th, Rhett of the 33rd and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Atlanta Children's Day Shelter for 40 years of service to
2 Georgia's children and families; and for other purposes.

3

4 WHEREAS, the Atlanta Children's Day Shelter was founded in 1986 through the leadership
5 and vision of the Junior League of Atlanta and North Avenue Presbyterian Church, who
6 recognized the urgent need to provide stability, education, and comprehensive support to
7 young children and families experiencing homelessness; and

8 WHEREAS, for 40 years, the Atlanta Children's Day Shelter has served children and families
9 facing housing instability by providing high-quality early childhood education,
10 trauma-informed care, mental health services, family support, and crisis stabilization
11 resources that create pathways toward long-term achievement and stability; and

12 WHEREAS, across the State of Georgia, approximately 2 percent of public school students
13 lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and nearly 60,000 children statewide
14 are homeless or living in unstable housing, a figure that has increased substantially in recent
15 years, placing at-risk students at a severe disadvantage in educational attainment, mental
16 health, and overall family well-being; and

17 WHEREAS, while Georgia has made progress in overall educational outcomes—such as
18 record-high statewide graduation rates—students experiencing homelessness nationally and
19 within Georgia continue to face academic and social-emotional challenges, graduating at
20 lower rates compared with their peers and underscoring the need for targeted early
21 intervention, behavioral health supports, and wrap-around services; and

22 WHEREAS, the Atlanta Children's Day Shelter advances a nationally recognized
23 two-generation (2Gen) approach, supporting both children and their parents
24 simultaneously—ensuring that children receive high-quality early education and
25 social-emotional support within a trauma-informed environment while parents gain access
26 to workforce development, housing stability resources, mental health services, and
27 individualized case management that strengthen the entire family unit; and

28 WHEREAS, by centering resilience, healing, and whole-family well-being and through the
29 dedication of its staff, board members, volunteers, donors, and community partners, the
30 Atlanta Children's Day Shelter has strengthened thousands of families, fostered school
31 readiness, and helped build a more resilient and opportunity-rich future for communities
32 across the State of Georgia.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 recognize and commend the Atlanta Children's Day Shelter for 40 years of transformative
35 service to Georgia's children and families; honor its leadership in advancing a comprehensive
36 two-generation strategy rooted in education, mental health, and trauma-informed care; and
37 extend their appreciation for its vital contributions to improving the long-term educational,
38 emotional, and life outcomes of children and families experiencing homelessness.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
40 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Atlanta
41 Children's Day Shelter.