

House Resolution 1080

By: Representatives Dempsey of the 13th, Hagan of the 156th, Buckner of the 137th, Ballard of the 147th, and Wade of the 9th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 29, 2026, as Strolling Thunder Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, our brains grow faster during the first few years of life than at any later point
4 in our lives; and

5 WHEREAS, nearly 640,000 children under age 5 reside in communities across Georgia,
6 representing the state's future leaders; and

7 WHEREAS, children's early experiences and relationships lay the foundation for future
8 learning, health, and behavior; and

9 WHEREAS, proper nutrition, medical care, and high-quality early education are all essential
10 building blocks for a child's development; and

11 WHEREAS, Georgia has made gains in supporting young children and their families in
12 recent years, including historic investments in Georgia's Lottery-Funded Pre-K, an increased
13 emphasis on early increased emphasis on early childhood mental health, and the creation of
14 a state child tax credit; and

15 WHEREAS, despite this, many of Georgia's families with young children continue to
16 struggle to meet high standards of health, education, and family stability; and

17 WHEREAS, for example, nearly one in five of Georgia's children under age 5 live in
18 poverty, and one in ten of its babies are born with low birthweight; and

19 WHEREAS, Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students (GEEARS), a nonprofit
20 organization, has brought families from across Georgia to share the joys and challenges of
21 raising young children with Georgia's lawmakers for Strolling Thunder at the state capitol;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Strolling Thunder emphasizes the importance of prioritizing our youngest
24 learners in public policy-for stronger families, vibrant communities, and a prosperous state;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, Georgia's future begins with babies and all Georgians can help make sure that
27 families have the resources and support they need to give their babies a strong start in life.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
29 the members of this body recognize January 29th, 2026, as Strolling Thunder Day at the state
30 capitol.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
32 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
33 public and the press.