

Senate Resolution 705

By: Senators Strickland of the 42nd, Watson of the 1st, Hatchett of the 50th, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Robertson of the 29th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending Georgia Community Service Boards; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Community Service Boards (CSBs) are created in O.C.G.A. § 37-2-6 et seq. as
3 public corporations and instrumentalities of the state to provide services for mental illness,
4 intellectual and developmental disabilities, and/or addictive diseases; and
- 5 WHEREAS, there are 22 CSBs across Georgia whose Boards of Directors are appointed by
6 the governing authorities of the counties within each CSB's service area; and
- 7 WHEREAS, as a vital part of Georgia's Public Safety Net, CSBs serve eligible persons with
8 serious mental illness, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and/or addictive diseases
9 who have no insurance or have limited means to pay for treatment, while also serving
10 individuals with Medicaid and, as capacity allows, those with other insurance; and
- 11 WHEREAS, CSBs have established a sterling reputation throughout Georgia for improving
12 the quality of life of many of this state's most vulnerable citizens by providing high-quality
13 and cost-effective care; and

14 WHEREAS, nearly two million Georgians suffered from mental illnesses or addictive
15 diseases in the past year, more than 320,000 experienced a serious mental illness in the past
16 year, and there are more than 145,000 adults in Georgia with intellectual or developmental
17 disabilities; and

18 WHEREAS, the Georgia Association of Community Service Boards (GACSB), located in
19 Villa Rica, Georgia, serves as a unified voice for all 22 CSBs, providing policy and
20 legislative advocacy on both state and national levels; and

21 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding work of Georgia's CSBs
22 be appropriately recognized for their immeasurable contributions in delivering essential
23 behavioral health and developmental disability services across our state.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
25 commend Georgia's Community Service Boards for their many outstanding contributions on
26 behalf of the citizens of Georgia.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary if the Senate is authorized and directed to
28 make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Georgia's Community
29 Service Boards and the Georgia Association of Community Service Boards.