

House Resolution 1041

By: Representatives Bennett of the 94th and Drenner of the 85th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Supreme Court of Georgia to establish rules and best practices for the creation
2 of eviction diversion programs to be implemented by courts throughout the state; and for
3 other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, evictions are life-altering events that often result in long-term housing
5 instability by hindering renters' access to safe and affordable housing; and

6 WHEREAS, in addition to causing displacement, evictions negatively impact physical and
7 mental health, lead to an increased risk of job loss, and disrupt children's educational
8 achievement; and

9 WHEREAS, before the COVID-19 pandemic, the nation was already in the midst of an
10 eviction crisis; and

11 WHEREAS, the health and economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and rapidly rising
12 housing costs have exacerbated the precarious housing status of renters with low or moderate
13 incomes; and

14 WHEREAS, in response to such housing crisis, courts across the state and nation have
15 implemented eviction diversion programs that facilitate mediation, provide access to legal
16 information and representation, and connect landlords and tenants with governmental and
17 community based financial assistance providers; and

18 WHEREAS, such eviction diversion programs have proven successful and benefit not only
19 tenants, but also landlords, courts systems, and the community as a whole.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body urge the Supreme Court of Georgia to establish rules and best
22 practices for the creation of eviction diversion programs to be implemented by courts
23 throughout the state.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
25 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Supreme Court of
26 Georgia.