

House Resolution 1138

By: Representatives Schofield of the 60th, Gilliard of the 162nd, Nelson of the 125th, Scott of the 76th, and Sharper of the 177th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing October 15, 2022, as White Cane Awareness Day at the state capitol; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the white cane, which every blind citizen of our state has the right to carry,
4 demonstrates and symbolizes the ability to achieve a full and independent life and the
5 capacity to work productively in competitive employment; and

6 WHEREAS, the white cane as well as guide dogs, by allowing every blind person to move
7 freely and safely from place to place, make it possible for the blind to fully participate in and
8 contribute to our society and to live the lives they want; and

9 WHEREAS, every citizen should be aware that the law requires that motorists and cyclists
10 exercise appropriate caution when approaching a blind person who is carrying a white cane
11 or accompanied by a guide dog; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia law also calls upon employers, both public and private, to be aware of
13 and utilize the employment skills of our blind citizens by recognizing their worth as
14 individuals and their productive capacities; and

15 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia, through its public agencies and with the cooperative
16 assistance of the National Federation of the Blind, can and should facilitate the expansion of
17 employment opportunities for and greater acceptance of blind persons in the competitive
18 labor market.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
20 the members of this body recognize October 15, 2022, as White Cane Awareness Day and
21 call upon our schools, colleges, and universities to offer full opportunities for training to
22 blind persons; upon employers and the public to utilize the available skills of competent blind
23 persons and to open new opportunities for the blind in our rapidly changing society; and
24 upon all citizens to recognize the white cane as a tool of independence for blind pedestrians
25 on our streets and highways.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
27 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
28 public, the press, and the National Federation of the Blind.