

House Resolution 1177

By: Representatives Oliver of the 82nd, Evans of the 83rd, Evans of the 57th, and Drenner of the 85th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending Aaron Gabriel Hartman; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Aaron was born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1970 and was diagnosed with
3 developmental disorder Williams' Syndrome in 1971; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Aaron has two jobs and lives and finds his way around Atlanta independently;
5 and
- 6 WHEREAS, he cares deeply for family, regularly checks in on his nieces and nephews, asks
7 about sick friends, and is proud to be a tax-paying citizen; and
- 8 WHEREAS, he votes every election cycle, reads enthusiastically, and participates in the
9 community; and
- 10 WHEREAS, with encouragement from community rabbis, Aaron contributes to Jewish life
11 in Atlanta and regularly walks to several different synagogues on Shabbat mornings; and

12 WHEREAS, during high school, Aaron worked at Avis G. Williams Library and
13 subsequently at Atlanta Alliance for Developmental Disabilities, receiving his five-year
14 achievement award in 1996; and

15 WHEREAS, his other employment includes the Center for Disease Control library, Quality
16 Kosher (now Kosher Gourmet), The Gatchell School, and, most recently, Publix (Toco
17 Hills), where he is now in his sixteenth year; and

18 WHEREAS, the greatest influence in his life was his mother, Bonnie, a special education
19 teacher, who helped nurture him and instill in him the self-confidence necessary to achieve
20 his maximum potential; and

21 WHEREAS, Aaron's brother Noah says Aaron has a pure soul, and he is special because he
22 is Aaron, not because his needs are; and

23 WHEREAS, Aaron's consistently positive attitude and demeanor, whether at work or in his
24 neighborhood, are his strongest attributes and make others' days brighter; and

25 WHEREAS, his two greatest accomplishments in life are the tremendous success he has had
26 living independently for well over 20 years and his ability to bring sunshine into the lives of
27 everyone with whom he crosses paths; and

28 WHEREAS, last year, Aaron won an award from the Tommy Nobis Foundation for
29 "outstanding workplace accomplishments of individuals with disabilities"; and

30 WHEREAS, for many years Aaron has been known and referred to as the "Mayor of Toco
31 Hills"; and

32 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
33 extraordinary individual be appropriately recognized.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
35 the members of this body commend Aaron Gabriel Hartman for his tremendous effort to
36 create a positive impact on others and wish him continued success.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
38 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Aaron
39 Gabriel Hartman.