

House Resolution 1198

By: Representatives Dempsey of the 13th, Jones of the 25th, Anulewicz of the 42nd, Cooper of the 45th, and Gambill of the 15th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 25th anniversary of Peer Support and the Associated Certified Peer
2 Specialists Workforce; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental
4 Disabilities (then known as the Department of Human Resources) designed and developed
5 the first statewide initiative to implement Peer Support in 1999; and

6 WHEREAS, since that time, Georgia's Peer Support service has become the model for nearly
7 every state in the union as well as multiple international countries to adopt Peer Support as
8 a service and to use certified peer specialists as an integral part of the behavioral health
9 workforce; and

10 WHEREAS, the service and workforce have been strengthened and enhanced by the
11 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities' partnerships with the lived
12 experience leadership of its certifying partners: the Georgia Mental Health Consumer
13 Network, the Georgia Council for Recovery, and the Georgia Parent Support Network; and

14 WHEREAS, certified peer specialists bring a unique lived lens to the behavioral health
15 service sector and promote recovery and change lives daily in a way that no other workforce
16 can accomplish; and

17 WHEREAS, numerous state employees, advocates, and other individuals have worked
18 tirelessly to champion this live-changing program.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
20 the members of this body recognize the 25th anniversary of the launch of Peer Support in
21 Georgia and applaud Georgia's pioneering leadership in the creation, development, and
22 sustaining of Peer Support service innovation and the building of a state, national, and
23 international workforce of certified peer specialists.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
25 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
26 Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities.