

House Resolution 200

By: Representatives Carter of the 92nd and Schofield of the 60th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, nearly 15 percent of Georgians live in poverty, with several counties reporting
4 poverty rates greater than 20 percent, which is above the national average; and

5 WHEREAS, with a median household income of only \$52,977, many families are one crisis
6 away from ruin; and

7 WHEREAS, responding to poverty cannot be the responsibility of federal, state, or local
8 governments alone; respecting the dignity of each person, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul
9 Georgia brings hope and help to those in need so they may find stability and move toward
10 self-sufficiency; and

11 WHEREAS, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia has mobilized more than 5,000
12 volunteers who worked innumerable hours and drove countless miles to assist over 129,000
13 people in 2018 as first responders in the fight against poverty in Georgia; and

14 WHEREAS, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia has provided more than \$6.3 million
15 in financial relief this past year to help Georgians stay in their homes, provide food for their
16 families, keep their utilities on, and pay their medical bills; and

17 WHEREAS, in cooperation with 45 retail partners, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul
18 Georgia provided 220 tons of fresh meat and produce to food insecure individuals and
19 families through its 38 food pantries located throughout the State of Georgia and provided
20 clothing, furniture, and household goods through its 12 thrift stores; and

21 WHEREAS, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia provides free benefit screening,
22 computer access and training, and educational programs that help lead to self-sufficiency;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia has helped Georgia Power distribute
25 \$50,000 of urgent financial assistance to furloughed federal employees during the 35 day
26 government shutdown; and

27 WHEREAS, upon completion of its capital campaign, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul
28 Georgia will be expanding its services to include a free pharmacy, health education, and
29 work force training; and

30 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments and
31 contributions of this extraordinary charitable organization be appropriately recognized.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
33 the members of this body recognize and commend the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia
34 for its many outstanding contributions on behalf of the citizens of Georgia and extend their
35 most sincere best wishes for its continued success.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
38 Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia.