

House Resolution 405

By: Representatives Schofield of the 63rd, Scott of the 76th, Davis of the 87th, and Hutchinson of the 106th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing October 15, 2023, as White Cane Awareness Day; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the white cane, which every blind citizen of our state/city has the right to carry,
3 demonstrates and symbolizes the ability to achieve a full and independent life and the
4 capacity to work productively in competitive employment; and
- 5 WHEREAS, by allowing every blind person to move freely and safely from place to place,
6 the white cane and guide dogs make it possible for the blind to fully participate in and
7 contribute to our society and to live the lives they want; and
- 8 WHEREAS, every citizen should be aware that the law requires that motorists and cyclists
9 exercise appropriate caution when approaching a blind person carrying a white cane or using
10 a guide dog; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Georgia law also calls upon employers, both public and private, to be aware of
12 and utilize the employment skills of our blind citizens by recognizing their worth as
13 individuals and their productive capacities; and

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

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

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body recognize October 15, 2023,
25 as White Cane Awareness Day.

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 and the press.