

House Resolution 766

By: Representatives Greene of the 154th, Powell of the 33rd, Lumsden of the 12th, Hawkins of the 27th, Mathiak of the 74th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and congratulating the State Board of Pardons and Paroles on the occasion of
2 its 80th anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 1943, Georgia voters ratified a constitutional amendment creating the State
4 Board of Pardons and Paroles; and

5 WHEREAS, the board is part of the executive branch of government but is insulated from
6 political influence by virtue of the fact that members are appointed to staggered seven-year
7 terms; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1980, a new system of parole decision guidelines was codified, and these
9 guidelines revolutionized the parole decision making process in Georgia; and

10 WHEREAS, the board uses guidelines to this day as the basis for its scientific and informed
11 decision making process; and

12 WHEREAS, Chairman Terry Barnard says that over the decades, public safety has remained
13 at the forefront of every decision that the board has made; and

14 WHEREAS, on December 6, 2023, the operational board meeting held at the capitol had the
15 theme "Public Safety through Informed Clemency Decisions - 80 years, 1943-2023," and
16 past and present members attending were justifiably proud of this momentous milestone.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
18 the members of this body congratulate the State Board of Pardons and Paroles on the
19 occasion of its 80th anniversary and recognize and acknowledge the dedication and hard
20 work of past and present board members.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
22 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to
23 Chairman Terry Barnard, Vice Chairman David Herring, and Members Jacqueline Bunn,
24 Meg Heap, and Timothy Ward of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles.