

## House Resolution 954

By: Representatives Nix of the 69<sup>th</sup>, Pezold of the 133<sup>rd</sup>, Trammell of the 132<sup>nd</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, and Taylor of the 79<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Tamlin Hall for his new film, *Holden On*, and its timeless  
2 themes of friendship, loss, and the centrality of mental health; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, *Holden On* tells the true story of Holden Layfield, a native of LaGrange,  
4 Georgia, and childhood friend of Tamlin Hall, whose successful prospects for life fell apart  
5 in his late teenage years as he struggled to cope with mental illness; and

6 WHEREAS, Holden's battle with mental illness ended in tragedy when he took his own life  
7 at the age of 19, forever impacting the lives of Tamlin Hall and the people of LaGrange; and

8 WHEREAS, the film is Tamlin Hall's love letter both to his dear friend Holden and to their  
9 hometown, crafted with tenderness and love toward Holden, all who knew him, and anyone  
10 who has ever battled mental illness or known someone who has; and

11 WHEREAS, the entire movie was filmed in LaGrange with the blessing of its citizens,  
12 employing many local workers, including actors, stagehands, craftspeople, and more, in  
13 addition to depicting a loving portrait of the beautiful town; and

14 WHEREAS, the film has garnered significant critical acclaim, winning numerous awards at  
15 a multitude of films festivals, including Best Director (Orlando Film Festival), Best Director  
16 and Best Actor (Breckenridge Film Festival), Best Feature Audience Choice (Atlanta Film  
17 Festival, Dances With Films, and Macon Film Festival), Jury Prize Outstanding Social  
18 Impact Filmmaking (South Bay Film and Music Festival), and was an *Atlanta Journal*  
19 *Constitution* critics' pick; and

20 WHEREAS, the Woodstock Film Festival will screen the film at its annual high school  
21 career day in recognition of the significance of its message to the lives of teenagers and  
22 young adults; and

23 WHEREAS, one in four Americans suffers from mental illness, which tends to materialize  
24 in the late teen years; and 75 percent of those between the ages of 18 to 24 self-medicate,  
25 often creating a tragic downward spiral ending in heartbreak, as suicide is the number two  
26 cause of death among people between the ages of 15 and 24; and

27 WHEREAS, mental illness strikes indiscriminately, affecting people from all backgrounds  
28 and walks of life, and *Holden On* is a masterful reminder that no one, no matter how  
29 successful, kind, or beloved, is immune to its call; and

30 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
31 extraordinary citizen of LaGrange, Georgia, be appropriately recognized.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
33 the members of this body recognize and commend Tamlin Hall for his new film, *Holden On*,  
34 his inspirational efforts to remind those with mental illness that they are never beyond help  
35 or hope, and his spectacular career exemplifying the very best of LaGrange and of Georgia.

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  
38 Tamlin Hall.