

House Resolution 971

By: Representatives Parrish of the 158th, Dempsey of the 13th, Hogan of the 179th, Tankersley of the 160th, and Buckner of the 137th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending R. Derril Gay, PhD, for his years of distinguished service to
2 the citizens of Georgia and the public safety net system and for his service as a public policy
3 advisor to the Georgia Association of Community Service Boards Inc.; and for other
4 purposes.

5 WHEREAS, in 1964, R. Derril Gay, PhD began serving the safety net of Georgia by
6 assisting the Georgia Department of Public Health Division of Mental Health, later joining
7 the Department of Human Resources in 1972 as Director of the Mental Health Section and
8 finishing his service in the Georgia Department of Human Resources as the Director of the
9 Division of Mental Health and Mental Retardation in 1981; and

10 WHEREAS, he dedicated his time and resources to serving the DeKalb County Board of
11 Health from 1981 to 1994 until the statutory creation of the DeKalb Community Service
12 Board, where he served as the first executive director until 2004; and

13 WHEREAS, he represented the Georgia Association of Community Service Boards as a
14 public policy advisor from 2004 to 2014, where he provided valuable insight to the safety net
15 system and advocated for persons with mental health, addictive diseases, and intellectual and
16 developmental disabilities before the governing boards and commissioners of the Georgia
17 Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, the Georgia Department
18 of Community Health, the Georgia General Assembly, and other state agencies; and

19 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
20 extraordinary citizen be appropriately recognized.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
22 the members of this body recognize R. Derril Gay PhD for his service to the Georgia
23 Association of community Service Boards Inc.; commend him for setting the foundations of
24 Georgia's public safety net system; and extend best wishes for future success.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
26 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to R.
27 Derril Gay PhD.