

Senate Resolution 11

By: Senator Orrock of the 36th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Multi-Agency Alliance for Children and recognizing January 17, 2019, as
2 Multi-Agency Alliance for Children Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Multi-Agency Alliance for Children began in 1996 when a group of nonprofit
4 agencies serving at-risk children gathered and founded what is now known as the
5 collaborative nonprofit entity, Multi-Agency Alliance for Children (MAAC); and

6 WHEREAS, MAAC is overseen by a prestigious board of directors led by the commissioner
7 of behavioral health and developmental disabilities and advised by a Provider Council Board
8 of Directors; and

9 WHEREAS, MAAC's current provider member entities are CHRIS 180; Creative
10 Community Services, Inc.; Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health Georgia; Georgia Baptist
11 Children's Homes and Family Ministries, Inc.; Georgia Elks Aidmore Children's Center;
12 Goshen Valley; Hillside, Inc.; The Methodist Homes; Twin Cedars Youth and Family
13 Services; and Youth Villages; and

14 WHEREAS, each of MAAC's member entities and affiliates utilize national best practices,
15 and each has accreditation from a national accreditation body; and

16 WHEREAS, MAAC's member entities and affiliates retain their individuality and expertise
17 in the populations that they serve, working diligently to eliminate the duplication of services
18 across multiple agencies; and

19 WHEREAS, MAAC uses a seamless continuum of services and care in addressing all needs
20 of the child, adolescent, and family, including behavioral health services and services that
21 are trauma responsive and reflective of adolescent brain development; individualizing
22 treatment and care; and reducing the number of placements of children and youth in various
23 out-of-home care settings; and

24 WHEREAS, MAAC works to fill service gaps and build innovative solutions within the child
25 welfare system, collaborating with partner agencies and focusing on providing care
26 coordination and other services that emphasize youth voice and choice; and

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28 WHEREAS, MAAC focuses on serving youth in foster care with high-end behavioral health
29 needs as well as youth who are in transition from foster care, serving more than 1,000 youth
30 each month; and

31 WHEREAS, MAAC's continuum of care serves children from all parts of Georgia, and
32 MAAC provides a variety of services to these children, adolescents, and families, including
33 residential care through its child care institutions, emergency shelter, intensive in-home, wrap
34 around family foster care through child placement agencies, group home, independent living
35 and life skills training, educational support, and intensive psychiatric care; and

36 WHEREAS, MAAC works closely with the Departments of Behavioral Health and
37 Developmental Disabilities, Community Health, Education, Human Services, and Juvenile
38 Justice and the Division of Family and Children Services to provide services to Georgia's
39 children, adolescents, and families in need; and

40 WHEREAS, MAAC serves as the lead agency for Georgia for the Jim Casey Youth
41 Opportunities Initiative and oversees Georgia EmpowerMENT, the youth led advocacy and
42 leadership group which is motivated by improving the foster care system; and

43 WHEREAS, MAAC is also a nationally recognized program serving adolescents in foster
44 care by Youth Thrive, an initiative of the Center for the Study of Social Policy; and

45 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
46 distinguished organization, including its member entities and affiliates, be appropriately
47 recognized for the care it provides to Georgians.

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
49 commend the Multi-Agency Alliance for Children and its member entities and affiliates for
50 their tireless and dedicated public service to the children, adolescents, and families of this
51 state and recognize January 17, 2019, as Multi-Agency Alliance for Children Day at the state
52 capitol.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
54 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Multi-Agency
55 Alliance for Children.