

Senate Resolution 161

By: Senators Unterman of the 45th and Harrell of the 40th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the School Social Workers Association of Georgia and recognizing March 1,
2 2019, as School Social Workers Association of Georgia Day at the state capitol; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, each year, thousands of children utilize the services of school social workers,
5 trained professionals who have obtained master's degrees and work to improve the lives of
6 students in Georgia's schools; and

7 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia is a nonprofit entity formed
8 in 1978 with more than 200 members who reside and work across all parts of the State of
9 Georgia; and

10 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia advocates for the needs of
11 all children and families in Georgia by providing access to and delivering mental health
12 services; by intervening immediately in both individual and school system wide crises; by
13 providing remedies to the barriers of education for homeless youth; and by collaborating with
14 community partners to gain access to resources to improve student achievement in the state's
15 schools; and

16 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia's members remove a number
17 of barriers to learning by utilizing interventions to improve school attendance, behavior, and
18 academic achievement; mobilizing family, school, and community resources to enable a
19 child to learn as effectively as possible; alleviating stress by making connections for students,
20 families, and school staff with appropriate interventions; providing crisis intervention
21 services; assessing students with mental health concerns and making referrals where
22 appropriate; identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect; conducting home visits;
23 enhancing the professional capacity of school personnel; and assisting in implementing
24 multitiered supports in schools; and

25 WHEREAS, the association enhances the human capital of its members through professional
26 development opportunities so that they may better serve Georgia's children and families; and

27 WHEREAS, the association serves its membership by issuing a newsletter, by offering a
28 mentoring program, and by providing opportunities to receive professional learning units and
29 continuing education units at annual conferences; and

30 WHEREAS, its members have a daily and direct impact on the lives of Georgia's children
31 by ensuring that they attend school regularly and possess the resources necessary to learn and
32 thrive.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 commend the School Social Workers Association of Georgia and its members for the work
35 done to help provide crisis and counseling services to Georgia's children and their families
36 and improve Georgia's educational system and recognize March 1, 2019, as School Social
37 Workers Association of Georgia Day at the state capitol.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
39 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the School Social
40 Workers Association of Georgia.