

Senate Resolution 356

By: Senators Cowsert of the 46th, Strickland of the 17th, Setzler of the 37th, Tillery of the 19th, Beach of the 21st and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating Spectrum Autism Support Group's 25th Anniversary and recognizing its
2 provision of support, education, and resources to individuals and families impacted by autism
3 in Georgia; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Spectrum Autism Support Group serves primarily those in the Gwinnett and
5 surrounding Metro Atlanta area counties, providing support groups, social skills groups, day
6 camps, overnight camps, respite, community education and training, and family events to
7 those who need them; and

8 WHEREAS, Spectrum was established in the fall of 1998 for families, friends, and teachers
9 of children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) within Gwinnett County, Georgia, and the
10 surrounding areas; and

11 WHEREAS, it was established by two moms, one being Claire Dees, who founded the group
12 and soon realized that there was an increasing need for support when over 100 people
13 attended the first meeting in October 1998; and

14 WHEREAS, Spectrum incorporated in 2000, received nonprofit status in 2002, and is now
15 reaching over 8,000 individuals per year in this state and beyond and growing daily; and

16 WHEREAS, Spectrum continues to improve the lives of children and adults with autism
17 today, as well as parents, grandparents, siblings, and educators who are impacted by autism,
18 and will be opening a new facility, the Spectrum Autism Support Center, in Duluth, Georgia,
19 in 2023; and

20 WHEREAS, Spectrum's mission is to provide support, education, and resources for
21 individuals and families impacted by autism, and its vision is to improve the lives of
22 individuals and families impacted by autism; and

23 WHEREAS, Spectrum continues to be innovative and progressive in seeking opportunities
24 to improve the lives of children and adults with autism spectrum disorders, as well as their
25 families, by filling in the gaps that exist in supports and services within the community.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
27 celebrate Spectrum Autism Support Group's 25th Anniversary and recognize its provision
28 of support, education, and resources to individuals and families impacted by autism.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
30 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Spectrum Autism
31 Support Group.