

Senate Resolution 564

By: Senators Strickland of the 17th, McLaurin of the 14th, Parent of the 42nd, Anderson of the 43rd, Payne of the 54th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Georgia Justice Project; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, for more than 35 years, the Georgia Justice Project has been working to
3 strengthen Georgia's communities by providing support to individuals in the criminal justice
4 system and reducing barriers to individuals reentering from incarceration; and

5 WHEREAS, the Georgia Justice Project's attorneys provide direct representation to
6 Georgians at all stages of the criminal justice system, from arrest to reentry, in pursuit of its
7 goals to lower the number of people under correctional control and reduce barriers to reentry;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the Georgia Justice Project uses comprehensive social services that last long
10 after case resolution and supports clients with various reentry services, including
11 representation to remove barriers to employment, housing, and other opportunities; and

12 WHEREAS, its Second Chance Desks in Athens, Augusta, and Cobb County are examples
13 of a community-based resource where individuals can have their records reviewed by an
14 attorney and obtain assistance for eligible individuals to have their records restricted or
15 sealed to remove barriers to reentry; and

16 WHEREAS, through its direct representation and support, the Georgia Justice Project has
17 positively impacted more than 10,000 Georgians since opening its doors; and

18 WHEREAS, the Georgia Justice Project leverages its experiences from direct representations
19 to work on systemic issues, crafting policy to help reduce barriers to reentry that has resulted
20 in 22 laws being changed thus far, positively impacting millions of Georgians; and

21 WHEREAS, it is both fitting and proper to recognize the Georgia Justice Project as well as
22 its staff and volunteers on their commendable work to help Georgians and our communities.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
24 recognize and commend the Georgia Justice Project as well as its staff and volunteers for
25 their years of efficient, effective, unselfish, and dedicated service to the citizens of this state
26 and extend to the organization their most sincere best wishes.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
28 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Georgia Justice
29 Project.