

Senate Resolution 649

By: Senators Payne of the 54th and Dixon of the 45th

### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 21, 2024, as Charter Schools Day at the state capitol; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, charter school law was enacted in 1998 and allowed for the creation of start-up  
4 charter schools; and

5 WHEREAS, charter schools are tuition-free, public schools that have the flexibility to be  
6 innovative and entrepreneurial for student and operational performance; and

7 WHEREAS, charter schools must be secular, have fair and open enrollment procedures, and  
8 are required to serve all student populations, including those with disabilities and English  
9 language learners; and

10 WHEREAS, established in 2001, the Georgia Charter Schools Association (GCSA) is the  
11 membership organization for Georgia's charter school operators and petitioners whose  
12 mission is to advocate for, foster, and support autonomous, high-quality charter public  
13 schools and networks throughout Georgia; and

14 WHEREAS, GCSA membership is open to any charter school developer, petitioner, or  
15 operator in the State of Georgia; and

16 WHEREAS, GCSA has successfully fought for numerous laws that have expanded public  
17 school options throughout Georgia; taught and trained more charter school boards in Georgia  
18 than any other organization or individual; and offered professional development  
19 opportunities for school leaders and teachers; and

20 WHEREAS, GCSA's charter school incubator works to address Georgia's educational needs  
21 by recruiting top talent to start charter schools in Georgia, and the association is the only  
22 charter school organization in the nation that offers an alternative certification program for  
23 teachers.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
25 recognize February 21, 2024, as Charter Schools Day at the state capitol; commend the  
26 teachers and leaders serving in Georgia's public charter schools; and celebrate the 65,000  
27 public school students enrolled in charter schools throughout the state.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
29 to make appropriate copies of this resolution to the Georgia Charter Schools Association, the  
30 public, and the press.