

## Senate Resolution 724

By: Senators Halpern of the 39th, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Strickland of the 17th, Jackson of the 41st and Harrell of the 40th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Georgia Psychological Association; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Psychological Association is the state's largest association of  
4 psychologists with the simple mission and vision of advancing the profession of psychology  
5 in the state and serving as the preeminent resource and advocate for Georgia psychologists;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, the Georgia Psychological Association began in August 1947 to advance the  
8 profession but also to create a licensure process that was enacted for the profession in 1951;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the Georgia Psychological Association continues to successfully serve as an  
11 organization committed to the health and well-being of Georgians; and

12 WHEREAS, the Georgia Psychological Association strives to promote the profession of  
13 psychology and the services provided to thousands of Georgians by its doctoral level-trained  
14 professionals; and

15 WHEREAS, the Georgia Psychological Association provides professional and practice  
16 viability services to its more than 800 member psychologists and trainees; provides a singular  
17 voice for these practicing professionals; and serves as a resource center, promoting  
18 educational offerings to its members and the public; and

19 WHEREAS, the Georgia Psychological Association continues to address challenges that the  
20 field of mental health has faced, including promoting access to quality care, by supporting  
21 training and legislation in the use of telepsychology to provide treatment and assessment  
22 services; and

23 WHEREAS, the association further supports the interstate compact PSYPACT and seeks to  
24 expand on the mental health reforms made through the passage of House Bill 1013, the  
25 Mental Health Parity Act; and

26 WHEREAS, the Georgia Psychological Association continues to collaborate on solutions to  
27 challenges its members have with Medicaid enrollment, reimbursement, and coding  
28 concerns; seeks greater access to mental health services in the wake of the pandemic,  
29 especially in rural areas where there are fewer providers; offers ideas to provide greater  
30 mental health services access to children and adolescents; and addresses licensure,  
31 credentialing, and workforce issues; and

32 WHEREAS, the Georgia Psychological Association's programs support the mentorship,  
33 training, and overall development of psychology professionals from graduate school through  
34 retirement via programming at the Atlanta Science Fair; graduate student involvement and  
35 awards; early career support; and a Senior Psychologist network; and

36 WHEREAS, the Georgia Psychological Association provides resources for the public good,  
37 linking the provision of the services of psychologists and supporting the mental health  
38 profession.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
40 convey their heartiest commendation to the Georgia Psychological Association as well as its  
41 staff and volunteers for their past, present, and future work on behalf of the individuals and  
42 families they serve in this state, throughout our nation, and around the world.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body encourage all citizens to seek  
44 mental health services as needed to remain healthy.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
46 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Georgia  
47 Psychological Association.