

Senate Resolution 809

By: Senators Parent of the 42nd, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Wilkinson of the 50th, Shafer of the 48th, Unterman of the 45th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the YMCA of Metro Atlanta on its 160th anniversary; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, since 1858, the YMCA of Metro Atlanta has grown from a small group of men
4 in pre-Civil War downtown Atlanta to a 160,000 member organization with 18 branch
5 operations in 12 counties, working to help people of all ages and backgrounds reach their full
6 potential; and

7 WHEREAS, the YMCA's work is advanced through partnerships with local governments,
8 public school systems, hospital systems, local colleges and universities, the corporate and
9 philanthropic communities, and other nonprofits; and

10 WHEREAS, as Atlanta's oldest nonprofit, more than 250,000 children and adults are served
11 through the YMCA of Metro Atlanta, nearly 20,000 young people have fun while developing
12 new life skills at YMCA summer camps, nearly 2,000 teens serve others and learn life and
13 leadership skills through the YMCA's teen programs, and more than 6,000 children are cared
14 for and developed academically through YMCA early childhood learning and after-school
15 programs; and

16 WHEREAS, 25,000 Metro Atlanta children receive free lunches when school is out during
17 the winter and summer months through the organization's Anti-Hunger Campaign; and

18 WHEREAS, Metro Atlanta YMCA's resident camps at Camp High Harbour at Lake Burton
19 and at Lake Allatoona help young people ages seven to 14 develop independence and helps
20 older teens develop leadership skills; and

21 WHEREAS, there are four strategic focus areas for the YMCA of Metro Atlanta's work:
22 ensure school readiness, improve academic achievement, empower healthy living, and
23 inspire civic leadership; and

24 WHEREAS, no adult, child, or family is ever turned away from the YMCA because of their
25 inability to pay; and

26 WHEREAS, generous individuals, foundations, and corporate partners contribute each year
27 so that all individuals or families who need financial assistance are able to participate in the
28 YMCA's life-changing programs at some level; and

29 WHEREAS, throughout its history, the YMCA has evolved to meet the changing unmet
30 needs of Metro Atlanta, and continues to shape Atlanta's future for good; and

31 WHEREAS, the YMCA of Metro Atlanta has been an important part of the Atlanta region's
32 history for 160 years and it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding
33 accomplishments of this extraordinary nonprofit be appropriately recognized.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
35 commend the YMCA of Metro Atlanta for its many valuable contributions on behalf of the
36 citizens of Georgia and recognize it on the occasion of its landmark 160th anniversary.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
38 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the YMCA of
39 Metro Atlanta.