

Senate Resolution 825

By: Senators Wilkinson of the 50th, Martin of the 9th, Brass of the 28th, Sims of the 12th and Tippins of the 37th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Supporting the education of Georgia's gifted and talented students; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Georgia lawmakers have continually recognized the special learning needs of
3 the gifted and talented population and how important it is to the State of Georgia that we
4 fully develop one of our most valuable resources: the extraordinary potential of gifted and
5 talented children from all backgrounds; and
- 6 WHEREAS, since 1958, Georgia leaders have recognized gifted children as a special
7 education group, classifying these students under Category VI of special education in state
8 law, *O.C.G.A. 20-2-152*, and providing support for appropriately identifying and serving
9 them; and
- 10 WHEREAS, the eligibility criteria, teacher training, and service options described in Georgia
11 law and State Board of Education rules have been recognized as exemplars at a national
12 level; and
- 13 WHEREAS, taxpayer monies are approved in Georgia law to support instructional programs
14 required to address the special needs of gifted learners, and both educational and fiscal
15 accountability requires us to maintain safeguards of quality programming for our state's
16 gifted students; and
- 17 WHEREAS, the *Georgia Resource Manual for Gifted Education* outlines approved delivery
18 models based on research evidence of effectiveness, and the Georgia Professional Standards
19 Commission provides requirements for qualified teachers with specific training in the needs
20 of gifted learners; and
- 21 WHEREAS, all local educational agencies are encouraged to use these guidelines to ensure
22 quality educational programming and to develop the full potential of all of our children's
23 intellectual and creative abilities.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
25 support the education of Georgia's gifted and talented students.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
27 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
28 press.