A RESOLUTION

1 Congratulating Special Olympics Georgia on its 50th anniversary; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Special Olympics Georgia has grown into a state-wide force, serving 26,681

3 athletes and offering 26 sports to athletes of all different ages and abilities to the disabled not

4 just in Georgia but throughout the Southeast as well; and

5 WHEREAS, the mission of Special Olympics Georgia is to provide year-round sports 6 training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for all children and 7 adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical 8 fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills, 9 and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community; and

10 WHEREAS, Special Olympics Georgia has five main state games held throughout the year,

11 taking place in the Atlanta area, Warner Robins, and Valdosta to best reach out to athletes

12 across the State of Georgia; and

13 WHEREAS, it has also evolved to not only serve the intellectually disabled athletically but

14 also to provide free healthcare screenings at all its state events through its Healthy Athletes

15 program; and

WHEREAS, due to Healthy Athletes free health screenings, training for healthcare
professionals, and evaluation of the health status of the intellectually disabled, Special
Olympics is now the world's largest public health organization for such individuals; and

19 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper to recognize and congratulate Special20 Olympics Georgia on its accomplishments over its 50 year history.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
congratulate Special Olympics Georgia on its 50th anniversary.

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- 23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
- 24 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Special Olympics
- 25 Georgia.