

Senate Resolution 961

By: Senator Jones of the 25th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Malcolm J. Mitchell and recognizing March 7, 2018, as Children's Literacy
2 Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Malcolm J. Mitchell is a native of Valdosta, Georgia, who became an Under
4 Armour All-American football player in his senior year of high school before attending the
5 University of Georgia, where he was recognized as the National Captain of the All-State
6 Goodworks Team for his frequent visits to elementary schools to read to students and talk
7 about literacy and where he established an exceptional record as one of the top ten wide
8 receivers of all time; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2015, Malcolm authored and published the highest selling book in the history
10 of the UGA Bookstore, a children's book called *The Magician's Hat*, for which he received
11 the 2016 Children's Author of the Year award from the Georgia Writers Association; and

12 WHEREAS, Malcolm is the founder of the national youth literacy program, Read with
13 Malcolm, in which he challenges middle and high school students to become "Reading
14 Ambassadors" and join the movement to change the face of youth literacy in their own
15 community; and

16 WHEREAS, he was the rookie NFL wide receiver for the 2017 Super Bowl Champions, the
17 New England Patriots, and has brought great pride and joy to his family, friends, and this
18 state with his amazing athletic achievements; and

19 WHEREAS, upon his return to Georgia, Malcolm received an Accommodation from the
20 State of Georgia and a "Key to City of Valdosta, Georgia" for his efforts both on and off the
21 professional football field; and

22 WHEREAS, in April, 2017, Malcolm was honored at the 20th anniversary of the President's
23 Summit for America's Future and the America's Promise Alliance Gala as the recipient of the
24 Promise Hero Award for his contributions to America's youth; and

25 WHEREAS, Malcolm has had a tremendous impact on his community through his spirit of
26 service and his efforts to spread his love of reading so as to inspire young people throughout
27 the state and the country to read more; and

28 WHEREAS, he was the recipient of the Pinnacle Award from The International Dyslexia
29 Association for his contributions to individuals who struggle with dyslexia and other reading
30 differences so that they may have richer, more robust lives; and he has also received the
31 Youth Literacy Award from the National Read to a Child Organization for his support of
32 youth literacy; and

33 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
34 extraordinary Georgian be appropriately recognized.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY SENATE that the members of this body
36 commend Malcolm J. Mitchell for the unparalleled success of his football career and his
37 tireless efforts on behalf of youth literacy and recognize March 7, 2018, as Children's
38 Literacy Day at the state capitol.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
40 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Malcolm J.
41 Mitchell, the public, and the press.