

House Resolution 569

By: Representatives Ballinger of the 23rd, Ralston of the 7th, England of the 116th, Houston of the 170th, Powell of the 171st, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring Georgia CASA for 30 years of advocacy and recognizing Duaine Hathaway for
2 18 years of service; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia Court Appointed Special Advocates (Georgia CASA) began as a
4 demonstration project and has grown to develop affiliate CASA organizations across the state
5 that provide volunteer advocacy for children who have experienced abuse or neglect and are
6 involved in juvenile court dependency proceedings; and

7 WHEREAS, since its founding, Georgia CASA has established a network of 47 affiliate
8 CASA organizations, and over 30,000 CASA volunteers have advocated for more than
9 120,000 children throughout the state; and

10 WHEREAS, for 30 years, Georgia CASA has been strengthening the CASA affiliate network
11 and supporting the child welfare system by offering training, technical assistance, and
12 advocacy; serving as a partner among state agency and policy leaders; engaging donors and
13 supporters; and assisting judges to provide a more coordinated, compassionate response to
14 child victims and families in crisis; and

15 WHEREAS, Duaine Hathaway served as Executive Director, leading Georgia CASA for 18
16 of these years, serving with compassion, humility, and integrity, and during his tenure,
17 CASA in Georgia experienced large-scale geographic expansion and CASA volunteers
18 became sought-after, best-interests advocates; and

19 WHEREAS, under Mr. Hathaway's leadership, Georgia CASA has been recognized and
20 celebrated amongst its state and national peers for its breadth of expertise and support, staff
21 longevity, and steadfast commitment to quality advocacy; and

22 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has recognized the value of CASA and the role of Georgia
23 CASA in promoting and supporting volunteer advocacy through its investments, recognition,
24 and inclusion in state law; and

25 WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly is proud to honor Georgia CASA for its
26 commitment to children, families, and volunteer advocacy and to commend its board
27 members and staff for their countless contributions made on behalf of Georgia's children.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
29 the members of this body join in honoring Georgia CASA for 30 years of advocacy and
30 recognize Duaine Hathaway for 18 years of service.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
32 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
33 Georgia CASA and Duaine Hathaway.