

Senate Resolution 338

By: Senators Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Albers of the 56th, Cowsert of the 46th, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Dolezal of the 27th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 15, 2023, as Georgia SERVES Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia SERVES is the Georgia Commission for Service and Volunteerism
4 located within the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, and it operates as the
5 administrative agency for funds from the AmeriCorps/Corporation for National and
6 Community Service, the federal agency that houses the AmeriCorps family of programs; and

7 WHEREAS, AmeriCorp, "the domestic Peace Corps," is a National Service program that
8 engages Americans of all ages and backgrounds in team-based results-driven service; and

9 WHEREAS, the mission of Georgia SERVES is to serve as a catalyst to address critical
10 needs in Georgia by working with AmeriCorp and community partners, creating and
11 promoting opportunities for Georgians to serve, and supporting organizations that use
12 volunteer service to solve Georgia's community problems, making sure the investment in
13 volunteer service is protected and managed well; and

14 WHEREAS, many Georgia residents are making a difference in the lives of those around
15 them and in their communities, and the impacts of these everyday good deeds and long term
16 intensive service opportunities add up to make a tremendous difference here in Georgia; and

17 WHEREAS, Georgia SERVES grants funds to qualifying agencies for the purpose of
18 implementing AmeriCorps programs in their communities in the areas of Education,
19 Economic Opportunity, Disaster Services, Healthy Futures, Environmental Stewardship, and
20 Veterans/Military Families; and

21 WHEREAS, the Georgia Legislature created Georgia SERVES in 1994 in response to the
22 National and Community Service Act passed by Congress the year prior, and for nearly 30
23 years, Georgia SERVES has been instrumental in building a sense of community throughout
24 the State of Georgia by promoting volunteerism and service; and

25 WHEREAS, the Georgia SERVES Commission board consists of 23 members appointed by
26 the governor and are responsible for helping to promote volunteerism, create impact
27 awareness, assist in the decision-making process, and contribute to the overall success of
28 AmeriCorps Georgia; and

29 WHEREAS, there are four Georgia SERVES staff members located within the Community
30 Development Division of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs with
31 responsibilities to provide oversight, compliance monitoring, technical assistance, and
32 support to the portfolio of programs; and

33 WHEREAS, during the 2021-2022 program year, there were 21 dynamic service programs
34 that received AmeriCorp grants through Georgia SERVES, and they are listed herein:
35 Breakthrough Collaborative, Boy Scouts of America, Clayton State University, Communities

36 in Schools of Georgia, Covenant House Georgia, Extra Special People, AmeriCorps
37 Program, Georgia State University Research Foundation Inc., Girl Scouts of Historic
38 Georgia, Goodwill Industries of the Southern Rivers Inc., Greater Valdosta United Way,
39 Hands on Atlanta Inc., Harmony House Shelter, Jekyll Island State Park Authority-Georgia
40 Sea Turtle Center, New American Pathways, One World Link, The Christian City Inc., The
41 Scholarship Academy Inc., The University of Georgia-Georgia 4H, Youth Villages-Inner
42 Harbour Campus, and the Relay Graduate School of Education.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
44 recognize March 15, 2023, as Georgia SERVES Day at the state capitol as well as honor all
45 Georgians who participate in service and volunteerism and thank them for the impact they
46 make throughout the state.

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