

Senate Resolution 635

By: Senators Merritt of the 9th, Butler of the 55th, McLaurin of the 14th, Esteves of the 6th, Islam Parkes of the 7th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the School Social Workers Association of Georgia for its
2 work; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, each year, thousands of Georgia children and their families utilize the services
4 of school social workers, who are master's level trained professionals working in Georgia
5 schools; and

6 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia is a nonprofit entity that was
7 formed in 1978 to help children and families access resources needed to allow children to
8 thrive and learn; and

9 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia is a nonprofit association
10 with more than 300 members state wide; and

11 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia advocates for the needs of
12 all Georgia children in public schools and their families by providing access to and provision
13 of mental health services; intervenes with immediate response to crises individually as well
14 as school-system wide; provides a remedy to the impediments of education for homeless

15 youth; and collaborates with community partners to gain access to resources toward the end
16 of improving student achievement in schools; and

17 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia's members strive to remove
18 student barriers to learning by utilizing interventions to improve school attendance, behavior,
19 and academic achievement; mobilizing family, school, and community resources to enable
20 a child to learn as effectively as possible; alleviating stress by making connections for
21 students, family, and school staff with appropriate interventions; providing crisis intervention
22 services; assessing students with mental health concerns and making referrals where
23 appropriate; identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect; conducting home visits;
24 enhancing the professional capacity of school personnel; and assisting in implementing
25 multi-tiered supports in schools; and

26 WHEREAS, the School Social Workers Association of Georgia's members have a daily,
27 direct impact on the lives of Georgia's children in public schools by ensuring that they attend
28 school regularly and are available to learn and have worked tirelessly to assist students as
29 mental health challenges have increased since the pandemic.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
31 recognize the School Social Workers Association of Georgia and its members for the work
32 done to help provide crisis and counseling services to Georgia's children and their families
33 and improve Georgia's education system including better student attendance and graduation
34 rates of its youth.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the School Social
37 Workers Association of Georgia.