

## House Resolution 1136

By: Representatives Weldon of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Atwood of the 179<sup>th</sup>, Welch of the 110<sup>th</sup>, Willard of the 51<sup>st</sup>, Braddock of the 19<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing January 23, 2014, as Children's Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the future of Georgia depends on the ability of today's children to grow into  
3 productive earners, loving parents, engaged citizens, and visionary leaders; and
- 4 WHEREAS, all children, especially children in foster care, with disabilities or health  
5 challenges, or without family guidance, need resources and encouragement from the  
6 community to achieve success; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Georgia's children continue to struggle to meet high standards of health,  
8 education, family stability, and employability and to compete nationally and internationally;  
9 and
- 10 WHEREAS, 27 percent of children in Georgia live in poverty, and 60 percent of students  
11 qualify for free and reduced-price lunches, a 10 percent increase since 2007; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Georgia state agencies, including the Departments of Community Health,  
13 Public Health, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Early Care and Learning,  
14 Education, Human Services, and Juvenile Justice, and the Governor's Office for Children and  
15 Families, are setting higher goals for improving the lives of children and collaborating more  
16 closely to achieve their goals; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Voices for Georgia's Children, a nonprofit organization, has convened  
18 child-serving and child advocacy organizations for Children's Day at the state capitol to  
19 encourage lawmakers to recognize the impact of public policy and programs on all aspects  
20 of child well-being; and

21 WHEREAS, the Culinary Arts students at Carrollton High School have prepared a  
22 wholesome "powerbar" snack to be shared with guests at Children's Day to emphasize the  
23 value of healthy eating; and

24 WHEREAS, the goal of Children's Day is to increase the commitment of all Georgians to  
25 children and children's issues by providing current research, information, and policy  
26 suggestions through a celebratory day-long event at the state capitol.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
28 the members of this body recognize January 23, 2014, as Children's Day at the state capitol.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
30 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Voices for Georgia's  
31 Children.