

House Resolution 1642

By: Representatives Park of the 101st, Lopez Romero of the 99th, Nguyen of the 89th, Carpenter of the 4th, Clark of the 108th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the importance of ensuring access to higher education for all Georgians; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, access to education is a fundamental human right; and

4 WHEREAS, according to a report by the Migration Policy Institute, 54,000 undocumented
5 students between the ages of 16 and 24 call Georgia home; and

6 WHEREAS, undocumented immigrants living in Georgia paid an estimated \$355.2 million
7 in state and local taxes in 2018; and

8 WHEREAS, the University System of Georgia Board of Regents policy 4.1.6 bars
9 undocumented students from enrolling at the University of Georgia, Georgia Institute of
10 Technology, and Georgia State University, among other institutions, regardless of academic
11 qualifications; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia is one of only three states in the country to ban undocumented students
13 from attending certain public postsecondary educational institutions; and

14 WHEREAS, Georgia ranks in the bottom third of states for adults with an associate's degree
15 or higher; and

16 WHEREAS, an educated populace benefits all Georgia residents; and

17 WHEREAS, it is in the best economic interest of the State of Georgia to remove barriers to
18 education, such as permitting undocumented students to be admitted to state institutions of
19 higher learning; and

20 WHEREAS, equal opportunity and education are quintessential American and Georgian
21 values.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
23 the members of this body encourage the Board of Regents of the University System of
24 Georgia to repeal rule 4.1.6 and allow Georgians of all backgrounds, regardless of
25 immigration status, to enroll in any University System of Georgia institution.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body recognize the importance of
27 ensuring access to higher education for all Georgians.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
29 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
30 public and the press.