

House Resolution 591

By: Representatives Silcox of the 53rd, Douglas of the 78th, Blackmon of the 146th, Hilton of the 48th, and Mathiak of the 74th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 20, 2023, as Transit Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Georgia transit agencies provide an invaluable service to the citizens of Georgia
3 by improving mobility and connectivity, forging communities, lowering the cost of living,
4 reducing traffic congestion, promoting job creation, and driving economic development
5 across the state; and

6 WHEREAS, the Metro Atlanta Rapid Transit Agency (MARTA) was founded by the
7 Georgia General Assembly with the 1965 MARTA Act that set the legislative framework to
8 provide rapid transit service to Georgia's capital city, serving more than 51 million annual
9 commuters in DeKalb, Fulton, and Clayton counties with 338 rail cars operating on 48 miles
10 of track and 550 buses along 1,439 miles of roads; and

11 WHEREAS, the 98 public transportation systems in urban areas and rural communities,
12 serving 129 counties and represented by the Georgia Transit Association (GTA), made nearly
13 70 million passenger trips last year; and

14 WHEREAS, GTA is dedicated to improving public transportation in the State of Georgia and
15 is focused on coordinating with state legislators to achieve equitable transit outcomes

16 throughout the 129 counties in the state served by public transit and working for stable transit
17 funding throughout the state; and

18 WHEREAS, Ride Gwinnett, which enhances Gwinnett County's quality of life by facilitating
19 the mobility of people and goods safely and efficiently, is expanding local bus service and
20 paratransit to increase travel destination options for Gwinnett residents by 41 percent; and

21 WHEREAS, Advance Atlanta ensures urban carriers and rural transit providers have a voice
22 in their state's government by bringing the public, business, and community stakeholders
23 together to pursue regional solutions to the transportation challenges facing the Atlanta
24 region; and

25 WHEREAS, the Georgia Transit Trust Fund supports capital transit projects in line with the
26 state's priorities, helping transit providers across the state expand service to reach more
27 customers in more areas; and

28 WHEREAS, MARTA's Stadler built CQ400 rail cars, which will replace MARTA's entire
29 rail fleet, and Gwinnett's newly branded Ride Gwinnett bus are proudly displayed on
30 Mitchell Street, two shining examples of transit innovations implemented with limited state
31 funds; and

32 WHEREAS, Transit Day 2023 raises awareness of the myriad benefits of public transit and
33 brings together Georgia's transit providers, citizen advocates, and lawmakers to encourage
34 sustained investments in this valued public services.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
36 members of this body recognize March 20, 2023, as Transit Day at the state capitol and

37 commend the state's public transportation providers that help deliver the state's workforce,
38 lower the cost of living, and spur economic development.

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