

Senate Resolution 50

By: Senators Seay of the 34th, Mallow of the 2nd, Jackson of the 41st, Merritt of the 9th, Harrell of the 40th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 25, 2023, as Afterschool Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, afterschool programs provide innovative hands-on opportunities for youth to
4 re-engage in their learning and connect with caring adults and peers in a safe and supportive
5 environment; and

6 WHEREAS, afterschool programs improve academic performance and outcomes by
7 increasing school day attendance, reducing grade retention, and improving classroom
8 behavior; and

9 WHEREAS, afterschool programs support working families and build stronger communities
10 by ensuring children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends and involving
11 parents, community leaders, businessmen, and adult volunteers in the lives of young people;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, America After 3PM indicates that approximately 18 percent of Georgia's
14 school-aged youth are in after-school programs, but over 600,000 more of Georgia's youth
15 would participate in an afterschool program if one was available in their community; and

16 WHEREAS, America After 3PM survey indicates that 238,265 children aged 5 to 17 years
17 old in Georgia were alone and unsupervised between the hours of 3 P.M. and 6 P.M. in 2019;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Georgia is committed to preparing our youth for the jobs of tomorrow, and
20 after-school programs provide opportunities for college readiness; career exploration,
21 especially in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); and expanded
22 learning opportunities that help youth gain hands-on experience and foster skills including
23 communication, teamwork, and consensus building; and

24 WHEREAS, there are many public and private entities providing quality programming, such
25 as 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Division of Family and Children Services Out
26 of School Services program, Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental
27 Disabilities Prevention Clubhouses, 4-H, YMCAs, and Boys and Girls Clubs; and

28 WHEREAS, the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network, a public-private collaborative, has
29 convened these organizations and after school providers from across the state for the fourth
30 annual Afterschool Day at the state capitol to encourage lawmakers to recognize the critical
31 role afterschool programs play in preparing Georgia's youth for success in college, career,
32 and life.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 recognize January 25, 2023, as Afterschool Day at the state capitol.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to make a copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Georgia Statewide
37 Afterschool Network.