

Senate Resolution 773

By: Senators Martin of the 9th, Unterman of the 45th, Miller of the 49th, Henson of the 41st, Rahman of the 5th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Hi-Hope Service Center on its 60th anniversary of supporting individuals with
2 intellectual and developmental disabilities; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Hi-Hope Service Center was founded in 1960 by the parents of six young
4 students from Gwinnett County and community leaders, establishing one of the first
5 organizations in Georgia to teach children with intellectual disabilities; and

6 WHEREAS, Hi-Hope Service Center owes a special debt of gratitude to Mrs. Nell Moses,
7 the mother of a three-year-old with a developmental disability whose determination to find
8 better options for her child and the help of the Georgia Association for Retarded Children,
9 the local paper, the Lawrenceville Jaycees, and friends ultimately resulted in the founding
10 of Hi-Hope Service Center; and

11 WHEREAS, Hi-Hope Service Center recognizes the leadership of the first board of directors
12 who were as follows: Mrs. Nell Moses, president; Mr. Walker Haywood and Mrs. William
13 Turner, vice-presidents; Mr. P.K. Martin, treasurer; and Mr. W.J. Moseley, secretary; and

14 WHEREAS, Mrs. Vinie Lowry started in 1961 as the school's first paid teacher and worked
15 at Hi-Hope Service Center for 19 years, retiring from the position of director of Hi-Hope
16 Training Center; and

17 WHEREAS, Hi-Hope Service Center successfully transitioned to an organization supporting
18 intellectually and developmentally disabled adults following the full integration of student
19 programs in the public school system; and

20 WHEREAS, the mission of Hi-Hope Service Center is to provide quality services that
21 empower adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to define and live a
22 meaningful life; and

23 WHEREAS, Hi-Hope Service Center currently runs a day program, an employment program,
24 a residential program, an adapted communication program, and a behavioral support program
25 supporting 236 individuals, 20 of whom are group home residents and receive around the
26 clock support; and

27 WHEREAS, Hi-Hope Service Center was awarded the Gwinnett Chamber's D. Scott
28 Hudgens Jr. Humanitarian Award in 2005, the Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation
29 Volunteer of the Year Award in 2006 and 2016, the Pinnacle Small Business Award in 2011,
30 and the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce Impact Regional Business Award in the Nonprofit
31 Sector in 2016; and

32 WHEREAS, in 2015, Hi-Hope Service Center entered into a long-term joint management
33 agreement with The Enterline Foundation, establishing a collaboration that further secures
34 the future for adults with developmental disabilities; and

35 WHEREAS, throughout its 60 years of service to the Gwinnett community, Hi-Hope Service
36 Center has carried on its founders' legacy of compassion and innovation and strove to serve
37 as an example to others in the community.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
39 recognize and commend Hi-Hope Service Center for its dedication to community service and
40 commitment to improving opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental
41 disabilities.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
43 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Hi-Hope Service
44 Center.