

House Resolution 167

By: Representatives Cooper of the 43rd, Hatchett of the 150th, Kelley of the 16th, Hawkins of the 27th, and Henson of the 86th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta therapy dogs known as
2 "Canines For Kids"; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Canines For Kids Program was established
4 in 2009; and

5 WHEREAS, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta employs 13 full-time therapy dogs in various
6 departments at Egleston and Scottish Rite as well as the Marcus Autism Center; and

7 WHEREAS, therapy dogs undergo a comprehensive and intensive training process for a
8 duration of 18 months; and

9 WHEREAS, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Canines For Kids have had a positive impact
10 on the emotional well-being and physical health of patients; and

11 WHEREAS, hospital therapy dogs have calmed fears, provided comfort, and reduced anxiety
12 for children and their families; and

13 WHEREAS, therapy dogs undertake a wide range of tasks in clinical settings including but
14 not limited to easing patient fears prior to surgery, motivating children who undergo
15 rehabilitation, and distracting children from painful treatment; and

16 WHEREAS, the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Canines For Kids Program has been
17 recognized nationally for its success, and other children's hospitals across the country are
18 seeking to replicate the program; and

19 WHEREAS, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta is a nation-wide leader and model for the
20 holistic treatment and care of pediatric patients by focusing on their emotional, physical,
21 mental, and spiritual needs.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
23 the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta therapy dogs known as "Canines For Kids" are
24 recognized and commended.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
26 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
27 Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.