On behalf of the Georgia Association of Educators, I would like to express our sincere condolences to the family of Congressman John Lewis. Our state, nation, and world lost an irreplaceable leader who was a champion for civil rights and for our children.

From his time as a founding member of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) to the halls of the United States Congress, Rep. Lewis will be remembered as an advocate for children. He often commented that we must teach our children about the struggle because they will be the ones to carry it forward.

As we teach the children about the struggle, may we also teach them the power of love. John Lewis often said we must love everyone and make necessary trouble to make certain that all people are treated justly.

While we greatly mourn his passing, we must also reflect on his legacy of humility, compassion, and faith. His words remind us all to honor his lifetime through working to fulfill its purpose:

“Our struggle is a struggle to redeem the soul of America. It’s not a struggle that lasts for a few days, a few weeks, a few months, or a few years. It is the struggle of a lifetime, more than one lifetime.”

-- GAE President Lisa Morgan