

Senate Resolution 595

By: Senators Stokes of the 43rd, Tate of the 38th, Brown of the 26th, Scott of the 36th and Thomas of the 10th

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating February 5, 2002, as "African American Business Enterprise Day"; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, African American businesses have made significant contributions to the
4 progress and growth of the State of Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, with ingenuity born of adversity and perseverance stemming from hardship,
6 African American entrepreneurs have created a vast and diverse array of business enterprises
7 in this state; and

8 WHEREAS, with successful enterprises ranging from small businesses to major
9 corporations, African American entrepreneurs have uniquely influenced the business culture
10 of this state and have built an enduring legacy of success for future generations; and

11 WHEREAS, a 1992 report on minority business participation commissioned by the House
12 of Representatives found that minority business enterprise participation in state contracts was
13 less than 1 percent during Fiscal Year 1991 and that the participation rate for black owned
14 businesses was estimated at less than 0.5 percent for the same period; and

15 WHEREAS, in 1993, a resolution sponsored by Representative Henry Howard created the
16 first "African American Business Enterprise Day"; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1995, the delegates to the Georgia Summit of African American Business
18 Organizations established the Silver Rights Award to recognize contributions supporting the
19 economic self-empowerment of African Americans; and

20 WHEREAS, the delegates present the Wolf Award to a distinguished individual and the Pack
21 Award to an outstanding organization, in recognition of the motto, "The strength of the wolf
22 is in the pack"; and

1 WHEREAS, the preeminent organizations who are members of the Georgia Black Business
2 Network are the Atlanta Business League, the Augusta Business League, Black Business
3 Professionals and Entrepreneurs, Camden County Black Chamber of Commerce, Community
4 Business Association, Columbus Black Business Association, Empire Realty Board, Gate
5 City Bar Association, Georgia Association of Minority Entrepreneurs, Georgia Association
6 of African American Attorneys, Georgia Minority Consulting Engineers Association, Islamic
7 Business Association, Liberty County Black Business Association, Atlanta Chapter of the
8 National Association of Minority Architects, North East Georgia Business Council, Onyx
9 Coalition, Savannah Business League, and South Georgia Minority Contractors Association.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
11 recognize the outstanding contributions of African American entrepreneurs to the State of
12 Georgia and designate February 5, 2002, as "African American Business Enterprise Day."

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
14 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Summit of African American
15 Business Organizations.