

## House Resolution 199

By: Representatives Ray of the 128<sup>th</sup> and James of the 140<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Festival of Camellias and commending the American Camellia Society; and  
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the first camellia organization designed to be national in scope was the Azalea  
4 and Camellia Society of America, headquartered in Macon, Georgia, in 1932; and

5 WHEREAS, its purpose was to promote a greater interest in these plants and to attempt to  
6 find correct names of the many varieties; and

7 WHEREAS, this small society officially merged with the American Camellia Society in  
8 1946; and

9 WHEREAS, the purposes of this society included the standardization of nomenclature,  
10 registration of new varieties, and a means of dissemination of scientific research and cultural  
11 care; and

12 WHEREAS, members throughout the United States and in 23 other countries are currently  
13 enjoying the benefits of membership in the American Camellia Society which awards  
14 medals, plaques, certificates, and honors annually to individuals who have contributed to the  
15 camellia hobby; and

16 WHEREAS, the American Camellia Society coordinates over 60 camellia shows throughout  
17 the United States each year; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1968, the American Camellia Society established its headquarters on a  
19 beautiful site near Fort Valley, Georgia, known as Masee Lane; and

20 WHEREAS, ten acres of formal camellia gardens are the highlight of the annual Festival of  
21 Camellias held during the month of February at Masee Lane Gardens; and

1 WHEREAS, the Festival of Camellias is a beautiful showcase event that attracts camellia  
2 enthusiasts and many other visitors to middle Georgia each winter.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
4 the members of this body recognize the Festival of Camellias to be held February, 2001, at  
5 Massee Lane Gardens and commend the American Camellia Society.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
7 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to American Camellia Society.