

A RESOLUTION

1 Providing for a special joint session for the recognition of 250 Years of Representative
2 Government in Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Colony of Georgia was established by royal Charter which was approved
4 by the Privy Council in January 1732, signed by King George II on April 21, 1732, and
5 witnessed at Westminster "by Writ of Privy Seal" on June 9, 1732; and

6 WHEREAS, the Charter provided that the colony was subject to governance by Trustees; and

7 WHEREAS, a resolution of the Common Council of Trustees, dated March 19, 1750,
8 authorized for the first time in Georgia the holding of an assembly of elected representatives
9 to present grievances and representations to the Trustees and officers of the colony; and

10 WHEREAS, on December 15, 1750, writs were issued for the holding of elections for the
11 selection of representatives; and

12 WHEREAS, the first assembly of elected representatives was convened on January 15, 1751,
13 in Savannah and consisted of 16 members selected from 11 districts; and

14 WHEREAS, this assembly could not enact laws or appropriate money but was created for
15 the purpose of advising the Trustees on the feelings of Georgia colonists; and

16 WHEREAS, this assembly marked the birth of elected representative government in Georgia
17 and was the predecessor of the General Assembly of Georgia; and

18 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia and its local governmental bodies are founded on the will
19 of the people and the people of this state recognize their inherent right and responsibility to
20 regulate their government and select their public officials; and

1 WHEREAS, in recognition of 250 Years of Representative Government in Georgia, an
2 appropriate, year-long observance of the benefits of representative government on the state
3 and local levels should be undertaken by the citizens of Georgia and their governmental
4 institutions.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
6 GEORGIA that the members of this body recognize 250 Years of Representative
7 Government in Georgia and hereby call on the citizens of Georgia to observe this historic
8 milestone with appropriate celebrations and observances throughout 2001.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a joint session of the House of Representatives and the
10 Senate be held in the hall of the House of Representatives at 3:00 P.M. on Monday, January
11 8, 2001, for the purpose of appropriate ceremonies commencing this year's observances.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that distinguished guests invited to participate in such joint
13 session shall include His Excellency the Governor, British Consul General Peter Marshall,
14 Poet Laureate of Georgia David Bottoms, the Secretary of State, the Justices of the Supreme
15 Court and the Judges of the Court of Appeals and retired Justices and Judges of these Courts,
16 former members of the General Assembly, and other distinguished guests as may be
17 designated by the presiding officer of the Senate or House.