

Senate Resolution 45EX2

By: Senator Dean of the 31st

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the first anniversary of the Corra Harris Garden Club; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Corra White was born on a plantation in Elbert County in 1869, and at the age
3 of 17 she married Lundy Harris, a Methodist circuit riding minister, and began a writing
4 career that produced a book entitled *A Circuit Rider's Wife*, which was the basis for the
5 movie "I'd Climb the Highest Mountain"; and

6 WHEREAS, after 24 years of marriage, Lundy died while visiting a friend near Pine Log,
7 Georgia. Two years later, Corra visited that area to be near the place where her husband
8 died, and, on a walk one day, she discovered an abandoned log cabin which she fell in love
9 with immediately; and

10 WHEREAS, the log cabin Corra discovered was built around 1820 by Cherokee Chief Pine
11 Log, who was later exiled to Oklahoma during the Trail of Tears, and Corra purchased the
12 cabin and added to it wings of log and heart pine paneling; installed a grape arbor, a coach
13 house, a smoke house, a barn, and other outbuildings; performed extensive landscaping; and
14 installed an electric generator and an indoor cistern which permitted the house to be fitted
15 with indoor plumbing, a novelty in the country at the time; and

16 WHEREAS, she called the property "In the Valley" and, while living there, Corra produced
17 many literary works, including three columns a week for The Atlanta Journal and over 400
18 short stories for notable magazines, and she became the first female war correspondent,
19 spending several months in Europe during the First World War; and

20 WHEREAS, after Corra's death in 1935, In the Valley was again abandoned until it was
21 purchased in 1996 by Jodie Hill, who immediately began preserving this treasure; and

1 WHEREAS, in April, 2000, the Corra Harris Garden Club was formed to carry on the work
2 and memory of Corra Harris, and, after only one year, membership in the garden club has
3 reached over 200 members.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
5 honor the memory of Corra Harris and commend the founders and members of the Corra
6 Harris Garden Club for their work and their success.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
8 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Corra Harris Garden Club.