

Senate Resolution 700

By: Senator Dean of the 31st

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring and recognizing the community of Cedartown on its historic 150th anniversary;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in the early part of the 1800's, the Creeks and Cherokees both laid claim to
4 what is now one of Cedartown's most remarkable landmarks, the Big Spring and its
5 surrounding territory; and

6 WHEREAS, the dispute over ownership was decided by an old rough and tumble Native
7 American ball game and, after a hard fought victory, the territory that is Cedartown came to
8 rest as one of the crown jewels in the Cherokee Nation; and

9 WHEREAS, Cedartown's natural beauty, plentiful game, timber, and abundant water supply
10 soon attracted settlers from all around and shortly after the arrival of the Priors, Wests,
11 Gibbons, Wrights, Peeks, Sparks, Hubbards, Brooks, Longs, Jones, and, along with many
12 other settlers, came the villainous Pony Club; and

13 WHEREAS, The Pony Club was a notorious collection of thieves and outlaws and for over
14 two years, 1832-1834, this barbarous band of bandits murdered, pillaged, and burned their
15 way through the countryside; and

16 WHEREAS, an organized effort of brave local settlers successfully put an end to The Pony
17 Club's reign of terror and Cedartown became known as a place of beauty and refinement;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Cedartown was incorporated in 1854 and its city limits extended one mile in
20 every direction from the bustling intersection of Main and Herbert Streets and included
21 within its boundaries the Big Spring which legendary Asa Prior, "The Father of Cedartown,"
22 donated to the city; and

1 WHEREAS, Asa Prior's deed commanded that the spring could never be enclosed so that
2 the people and livestock of Cedartown could never be denied its use; and

3 WHEREAS, Cedartown and Polk County gave generously of their men and resources during
4 the War Between the States as Polk County sent four companies of regular army troops into
5 the bloody fray of war; and

6 WHEREAS, for its generosity, General Sherman's men set the Cedartown courthouse ablaze
7 along with 65 other buildings that included homes, schools, and civic buildings of all types;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, during reconstruction, a second courthouse was built on the site of the first, but
10 burned down also and was rebuilt again on the same site in 1889; and

11 WHEREAS, an article appearing in *The Cedartown Standard* by Charles Adamson recalled
12 the Cedartown he first knew in 1887 describing it as a small country village on a railroad
13 running from no place to nowhere, but area ore mines, the Cherokee Iron Company, the East
14 West Railroad Company, and The Central of Georgia Railroad depot, soon changed that; and

15 WHEREAS, by 1926, Adamson reported that Cedartown had become a thriving town of
16 8,000 residents with paved streets and sidewalks, a magnificent school system, and every
17 comfort of a large city; and

18 WHEREAS, since the time of Charles Adamson's articles, strong leadership helped
19 Cedartown to grow: leaders such as W.D. Trippe; Stovall Trawick; W.M. Moss; Ray Beck;
20 Albert Moore; Olin Bates; A.P. Gilmore; Robert Parks; and more, all led Cedartown through
21 its modern development of the past 50 years; and

22 WHEREAS, Cedartown is now a warm welcoming community set on a balanced course
23 between qualities of life and growth and economic development for another 150 years.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that this body honors and
25 recognizes the historic and great community of Cedartown and its residents on the 150th
26 anniversary of its founding and express to Cedartown, Georgia, sincerest best wishes for the
27 future.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
- 2 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Cedartown, Georgia.