

Senate Resolution 715

By: Senators Gillis of the 20th, Tolleson of the 18th, Dean of the 31st, Starr of the 44th, Hooks of the 14th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Georgia Forestry Association and February 10, 2004, as "Forestry Day at
2 the Capitol"; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, forestry is the leading industry in this state, creating 177,000 jobs and having
4 a \$25.4 billion annual economic impact in this state; and

5 WHEREAS, Georgia's 24.4 million acres of forestland occupy two-thirds of this state's total
6 land area of 37 million acres; and

7 WHEREAS, 23.8 million acres of Georgia's forestland—more than that of any other state—are
8 available for commercial use, of which 72 percent is owned by private nonindustrial
9 landowners; and

10 WHEREAS, timber is the highest valued crop in this state, and Georgia remains one of the
11 top pulp and paper producing states in the nation; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia's forests not only are economically important but also provide vital
13 environmental and social benefits; and

14 WHEREAS, the Georgia Forestry Association (GFA), founded in 1907, is one of the oldest
15 conservation organizations in the United States; and through the years GFA has worked with
16 landowners in protecting their property rights and adopting sound land management practices
17 to ensure that our forests continue to provide clean air, clean water, soil conservation,
18 wildlife habitat, beauty, and recreational opportunities; and

19 WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that the significant contributions of this industry and
20 organization to the welfare of this state be recognized.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
2 recognize February 10, 2004, as "Forestry Day at the Capitol" in honor of the significant
3 contributions made to the welfare of this state by forestry and the Georgia Forestry
4 Association.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
6 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Forestry Association.