

House Resolution 1197

By: Representatives Porter of the 119th, Ashe of the 42nd, Post 2, Wilkinson of the 41st, Jones of the 38th, Coleman of the 118th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending and recognizing Mr. Christopher Glenn Sawyer; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Mr. Christopher Glenn Sawyer is one of the most distinguished, charitable, and
3 remarkable individuals living in Georgia today; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mr. Sawyer is widely regarded across the nation and around the world as one
5 of the foremost experts on smart growth, green development, and conservation finance
6 issues; and
- 7 WHEREAS, as the national chairperson of the board of directors of The Trust for Public
8 Land (TPL), he was responsible for TPL's acquiring approximately \$2 billion worth of land
9 for parks, earning *Smart Money's* rating as the nation's most economically effective
10 environmental organization for three straight years, and preserving through purchase over
11 1,077 square miles of land across the country—an area roughly the size of Rhode Island; and
- 12 WHEREAS, he is responsible, through his leadership of TPL, for setting aside and
13 preserving more land than any president other than Teddy Roosevelt and Bill Clinton; and
- 14 WHEREAS, he is the founder and chairperson of the Chattahoochee River Coordinating
15 Committee and has raised more than \$160 million for the purchase of over 10,000 acres and
16 65 miles of Chattahoochee River frontage from Helen to Columbus and doubled the size of
17 the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area; and
- 18 WHEREAS, he is lobbying Congress for federal legislation to fund conservation easements,
19 thus paying landowners to leave land undeveloped or to reduce the acreage dedicated to
20 development; and

1 WHEREAS, he believes that preserving and setting aside land is essential to making humans
2 mentally and physically healthy, to protecting our natural infrastructure, and to ultimately
3 serving as economic generators; and

4 WHEREAS, the work of the Chattahoochee River Coordinating Committee and Mr. Sawyer
5 will forever have a huge human and economic impact on Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, his leadership, work, and creative solutions have been invaluable to efforts to
7 preserve greenspace and improve the quality of the environment in the State of Georgia and
8 the nation.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
10 the members of this body commend and recognize Mr. Christopher Glenn Sawyer for his
11 many selfless contributions to this state's and the nation's economy and the positive impact
12 his work has had on ensuring the well-being of the environment and humans.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
14 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Christopher Glenn
15 Sawyer.