

House Resolution 1331

By: Representative Graves of the 106th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending Habitat for Humanity affiliates in Georgia and recognizing Habitat for
- 2 Humanity Day; and for other purposes.

- 3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia promotes and encourages the creation and revitalization
- 4 of sustainable and strong neighborhoods in partnership with counties, cities, and other local
- 5 communities and in conjunction with the independent and collective actions of private
- 6 citizens and organizations; and

- 7 WHEREAS, establishing a housing infrastructure strengthens neighborhoods and local
- 8 economies and nurtures the families who reside in them; and

- 9 WHEREAS, quality housing adds to a community's tax base and, without adequate housing,
- 10 the tax base declines; and

- 11 WHEREAS, for many families, a home is not merely shelter but also provides an opportunity
- 12 for growth, prosperity, and security; and

- 13 WHEREAS, home ownership is a cornerstone of the state's economy because it spurs the
- 14 production and sale of goods and services, generates new jobs, encourages savings and
- 15 investment, promotes economic and civic responsibility, and enhances the financial security
- 16 of all people in the State of Georgia; and

- 17 WHEREAS, although the United States is the first nation in the world to make owning a
- 18 home a reality for a vast majority of its families, almost one-third of the families in the State
- 19 of Georgia are not homeowners; and

- 20 WHEREAS, a disproportionate percentage of families in the State of Georgia who are not
- 21 homeowners are low-income families; and

1 WHEREAS, the community building activities of neighborhood based nonprofit housing
2 organizations empower individuals to improve their lives and make communities safer and
3 healthier for families; and

4 WHEREAS, one of the best known nonprofit housing organizations is Habitat for Humanity,
5 which builds simple but adequate housing for less fortunate families and symbolizes the
6 self-help approach to home ownership; and

7 WHEREAS, located throughout the State of Georgia there are 85 Habitat for Humanity
8 affiliates, each of which is a 501(c)(3) federal tax-exempt organization controlled by a locally
9 elected and voluntary board of directors; and

10 WHEREAS, Habitat for Humanity has built and rehabilitated nearly 2,500 houses throughout
11 the State of Georgia and endeavors to complete another 500 homes by the end of 2005; and

12 WHEREAS, Habitat for Humanity provides opportunities for people from every segment of
13 society to volunteer to help make the American dream a reality for Georgia families who
14 otherwise would not own a home.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
16 the members of this body commend Georgia Habitat for Humanity affiliates and their many
17 volunteers who give of their time to make the American dream of home ownership a reality
18 for those Georgia families who otherwise would not be able to afford a simple, decent place
19 in which to live and raise their children; recognize September 18, 2004, as Habitat for
20 Humanity Day; and encourage all Georgians to work with their local Habitat for Humanity
21 affiliates on that day, helping to emphasize and focus on the importance of providing decent
22 homes for all of the people of this state.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
24 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Habitat for Humanity.