

Senate Resolution 888

By: Senator Kemp of the 46th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending and recognizing Athens First Bank and Trust Company and congratulating it
2 on the occasion of its 75th anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, incorporated on May 6, 1929, under the name of Mutual Building and Loan
4 Association, the association, in 1935, joined the Federal Home Loan Bank System and
5 became Athens Federal Savings & Loan Association; and

6 WHEREAS, Athens First Bank and Trust Company was originally located at the corner of
7 Washington Street and College Avenue and moved, in 1937, to 114 College Avenue and then
8 to its present location at 124 East Hancock Avenue, in 1960, where it has remained since;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, six presidents have served since the bank's beginning: O.A. Dozier, May
11 1929-January 1931; B.S. Dobbs, January 1931-January 1943; H.H. McWhorter, January
12 1943-1964; Julius Bishop, 1964-1983; James L. LaBoon, Jr., 1983-2002; and J. William
13 Douglas, Jr., 2002 to present; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1991, Athens Federal Savings Bank was acquired by Synovus Financial
15 Corp. and at the time of purchase, Athens First became the first bank in Georgia to convert
16 from a savings and loan charter to a full service, state chartered commercial bank; and

17 WHEREAS, the bank has grown prodigiously since its founding and now includes at least
18 14 separate branches and, today, operates under its own independent board of directors and
19 management, providing a full range of banking services through eight convenient Athens and
20 Oconee locations, as well as branches in Lavonia, Hartwell, Commerce, Monroe, and
21 Gwinnett County, Georgia.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
23 commend and recognize Athens First Bank and Trust Company for the valuable service it

1 provides its community and customers and congratulate it on the occasion of its 75th
2 anniversary.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
4 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Athens First Bank and Trust Company.