

House Resolution 1960

By: Representative White of the 3rd, Post 2

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Ms. Carolyn Wills, Executive Director, Fannin County Development
2 Authority; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Carolyn Wills was born and raised in Memphis, Tennessee, and spent summer
4 vacations in North Georgia with her godparents; and

5 WHEREAS, Carolyn Wills accepted a job with the Fannin County Development Authority
6 in September of 2001; and

7 WHEREAS, not long after she took the job, the Levi Strauss plant in Blue Ridge closed,
8 leaving hundreds of people without jobs; and

9 WHEREAS, Carolyn Wills formed a community task force to help address the needs of
10 displaced workers when Levi Strauss closed its plant; and

11 WHEREAS, Carolyn Wills negotiated with Levi Strauss for the county's purchase of the Levi
12 Strauss property and helped relocate a new manufacturer, Kismet, on the property; and
13 Kismet currently employs 120 people; and

14 WHEREAS, Kismet's old building became available for an expansion of Whitepath-Fabtec,
15 which will eventually employ 75 people; and

16 WHEREAS, Carolyn Wills helped develop a funding package for Hampton Square, a
17 mixed-use development including Georgia Mountain Fiber and the Blue Ridge Community
18 Theater; and

19 WHEREAS, Carolyn Wills established a business development center at Epworth which
20 provided a new home for an Appalachian Technical College satellite campus; and

1 WHEREAS, she was named one of *Georgia Trend's* "Top 40 under 40," reflecting great
2 credit upon herself and her community; and

3 WHEREAS, from 2000 through the third quarter of 2002, over 80 new local businesses have
4 emerged under the guidance of the Fannin County Development Authority led by Carolyn
5 Wills.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
7 Ms. Carolyn Wills is commended for her work in attracting new businesses to Fannin
8 County, creating jobs that allow people to stay in the area and not move elsewhere to find
9 work.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
11 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to Ms. Carolyn Wills.