

Senate Resolution 640 **PRE-FILE**

By: Senators Golden of the 8th, Zamarripa of the 36th and Stoner of the 6th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the United States Congress and the President of the United States to pass
2 comprehensive immigration reform in 2006 in order to protect our homeland, secure
3 continued economic development, and protect the rights of all immigrants; and for other
4 purposes.

5 WHEREAS, President George W. Bush declared in his February 3, 2005, State of the Union
6 Address that the United States immigration system is broken and must be reformed, and
7 urged Congress to pass "significant immigration reform that protects the homeland by
8 controlling the borders"; and

9 WHEREAS, President George W. Bush declared on November 28, 2005, that "...together
10 with Congress we're going to create a temporary worker program that will take pressure off
11 the border, [and] bring workers from out of the shadows...." And the President further stated
12 that "The nation did not have to choose between upholding its immigration laws and being
13 compassionate to the millions of workers who travel here desperate to make a living."; and

14 WHEREAS, states across the country face mounting difficulties in dealing with the failed
15 immigration policy; and

16 WHEREAS, the General Assembly of Georgia is considering state legislation to deal with
17 illegal immigration; and

18 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia and its agencies and departments require clarification of
19 their roles and responsibilities in responding and conforming to federal immigration policies;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, immigration impacts all aspects of the State of Georgia, including the economy,
22 social services, education services, the criminal justice system, and health services; and

1 WHEREAS, many Georgia industries rely heavily upon immigrant labor; and

2 WHEREAS, an illegal labor market, fraudulent documents, and uncontrolled borders
3 undermine our national security; and

4 WHEREAS, a nation that values and depends upon immigration should have rational and
5 humane immigration laws that serve the American economy, reflect the American dream,
6 and address the eight to ten million undocumented immigrants currently in the United States;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, President Bush has asked the United States Congress to pass comprehensive
9 immigration reform that addresses these homeland security and labor issues without
10 disrupting the massive economic contribution that immigrants make to the United States each
11 year; and

12 WHEREAS, immigration reform must reflect the interests and needs of many different states
13 and must address the national issues of homeland security and the economy; and

14 WHEREAS, immigration reform therefore must, by necessity, be addressed at the federal
15 level; and

16 WHEREAS, this body should adopt a principle of expectation for comprehensive
17 immigration reform from the federal government.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
19 urge the United States Congress and the President of the United States to act soon on
20 comprehensive immigration reform.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
22 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to each member of the Georgia
23 congressional delegation and the President of the United States.