

House Resolution 1381

By: Representatives Smith of the 70th, Cole of the 125th, McCall of the 30th, Smith of the 129th, and Floyd of the 147th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing February 15, 2006, as "Forestry Day at the Capitol"; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, forestry is the leading industry in this state, creating 136,000 jobs and having
3 a \$23 billion annual economic impact in this state; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Georgia's 24 million acres of forestland occupy two-thirds of this state's total
5 land area of 37 million acres; and
- 6 WHEREAS, 23 million acres of Georgia's forestland – more than that of any other state –
7 are available for commercial use, of which 72 percent is owned by private, nonindustrial
8 landowners; and
- 9 WHEREAS, timber is the highest valued crop in this state, and Georgia remains one of the
10 top pulp and paper producing states in the nation; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Georgia's forests not only are economically important but also provide vital
12 environmental and social benefits; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the Georgia Forestry Association (GFA), founded in 1907, is one of the oldest
14 conservation organizations in the United States; and through the years GFA has worked with
15 landowners in protecting their property rights and adopting sound land management practices
16 to ensure that our forests continue to provide clean air, clean water, soil conservation,
17 wildlife habitat, beauty, and recreational opportunities; and
- 18 WHEREAS, GFA is the sponsoring organization for the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and
19 thus promotes Best Management Practices for forestry, responsible wood procurement
20 practices, wildlife habitat enhancement, and educational outreach to Georgia's forest
21 landowners; and

1 WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that the significant contributions of this industry and
2 organization to the welfare of this state be recognized.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
4 the members of this body recognize February 15, 2006, as "Forestry Day at the Capitol" in
5 honor of the significant contributions made to the welfare of this state by forestry and the
6 Georgia Forestry Association.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
8 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Forestry
9 Association.