

Senate Resolution 1118

By: Senator Rogers of the 21st

### A RESOLUTION

1 Urging all Georgia school boards to consider using the video *A More Perfect Union*; and for  
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in May of 1787, 55 of America's brightest statesmen and ablest and wisest  
4 thinkers, all leaders in their respective states, men who understood the principles of freedom  
5 and representative government, assembled together, many believe, by divine Providence in  
6 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where they, against great odds, created, through open debate and  
7 compromise, a document of law that would literally change the world; and

8 WHEREAS, on September 17, 1787, 39 brave and courageous men completed, then signed  
9 this newly created document, the Constitution of the United States of America, at a time  
10 when 99 percent of the world's population was living under tyranny; and

11 WHEREAS, this Constitution, upon ratification by all thirteen states, after often bitter and  
12 divisive debate, became the "Law of the Land," a document unlike anything else ever written,  
13 establishing a government where the people were sovereign, and it is the Constitution to  
14 which the Georgia General Assembly takes an oath to defend; and

15 WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States has been, and continues to be a "Beacon  
16 of Hope for Freedom" for people throughout the world, drawing them to America in  
17 enormous numbers; and

18 WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States, in its wisdom, established via Public Law  
19 108-447, Section 111, signed into law on December 8, 2004, by President George W. Bush,  
20 language that creates an annual "Constitution Day and Citizenship Day" to emphasize the  
21 importance of the Constitution of the United States to all Americans by providing  
22 educational material on the Constitution for all new employees, and further provides that on  
23 September 17 of each year each educational institution throughout the United States

1 receiving federal funds shall hold an educational program on the Constitution for students  
2 served by such educational institution; and

3 WHEREAS, the Bicentennial Commission for the 200th Anniversary of the signing of the  
4 Constitution in 1987 commissioned the filming of a video entitled "A More Perfect Union,"  
5 filmed in Williamsburg, Virginia, in the replica of Constitution Hall, with said video later  
6 becoming the source of a PBS TV documentary; and

7 WHEREAS, said video is now available for use by all Georgia school systems to comply  
8 with the provisions of Public Law 108-447, Section 111 to help educate all Georgia students  
9 on how the Constitution of the United States was created, under conditions few Georgians  
10 today can possibly comprehend.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
12 GEORGIA that September 17, 2006, is declared Constitution Day and Citizenship Day in  
13 Georgia.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Georgia General Assembly hereby urges all Georgia  
15 school boards to consider using said video, *A More Perfect Union*, as a means to partially  
16 comply with the provisions of Public Law 108-447, heretofore mentioned, and to more  
17 effectively educate all Georgia students about the powerful principles of freedom embodied  
18 in the Constitution of the United States, and about the wise men, America's Founding  
19 Fathers, who through four long hot months debated, argued, and finally compromised in  
20 order to bring forth a Constitution of law making all mankind free and equal, subject to "the  
21 Laws of Nature and of Nature's God."

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
23 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to all the boards of education in the state  
24 of Georgia.