

House Resolution 2309

By: Representative Smith of the 113<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 200th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Watkinsville; and  
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, this year, the City of Watkinsville is proudly celebrating its bicentennial  
4 anniversary, marking 200 years of rich heritage; and

5 WHEREAS, originally known as the "Big Springs" community, the city was formally named  
6 Watkinsville in 1802 and incorporated on November 24, 1806; and

7 WHEREAS, Watkinsville was the county seat of Clarke County until 1871; when Oconee  
8 County was formed in 1875, Watkinsville was named as its county seat; and

9 WHEREAS, central to Watkinsville's unique history is the Eagle Tavern, established by 1801  
10 as a stagecoach stop and tavern and later serving as a hotel; located across from the original  
11 Oconee County Courthouse, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

12 WHEREAS, other noteworthy constructions in Watkinsville include the Haygood House,  
13 constructed circa 1827, and the Ashford Memorial Methodist Church, a Victorian Gothic  
14 structure built in 1893; and

15 WHEREAS, over the years, many colorful characters have populated this charming southern  
16 town, and today Watkinsville is home to over 2,000 residents who are proud of their vibrant  
17 history and great promise for the future; and

18 WHEREAS, Georgia has been very blessed to have this remarkable municipality in its midst  
19 for 200 years.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
21 the members of this body join in commemorating the 200th anniversary of the incorporation

1 of the City of Watkinsville and extend their very best wishes for many more years of  
2 continued prosperity for this very special community.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
4 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Honorable Jim Luken,  
5 Mayor of the City of Watkinsville.