

House Resolution 239

By: Representative Parsons of the 42nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 13, 2007, as "Historic Preservation Day"; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the year 2007 marks the 274th anniversary of Georgia's founding, when General
3 James Edward Oglethorpe landed in modern-day Savannah on February 12, 1733; and

4 WHEREAS, the preservation and rehabilitation of historic places have contributed to the
5 economic and social well-being of our state by revitalizing downtowns, rehabilitating historic
6 neighborhoods, attracting tourists, increasing tax bases, and creating jobs and real estate
7 investment opportunities in historic districts throughout Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, the Main Street Program downtown revitalization program in 107 cities
9 administered through the Department of Community Affairs with design assistance provided
10 by the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation and the University of Georgia has assisted
11 more than 3,500 businesses to rehabilitate their historic buildings; and

12 WHEREAS, about three-quarters of a billion private dollars have been invested in
13 completing certified historic rehabilitation projects in Georgia administered by the Historic
14 Preservation Division of the Department of Natural Resources; and

15 WHEREAS, historic sites are the number one destination chosen by visitors to Georgia, and
16 heritage tourism is a major feature of Georgia's \$28 billion tourism economy that employs
17 217,000 Georgians with a return of \$1.3 billion in state and local tax revenue; and

18 WHEREAS, 120 communities throughout Georgia have established historic preservation
19 commissions which recognize the important contributions historic places make to the quality
20 of life of Georgia cities and counties; and

21 WHEREAS, Georgia is among the nation's leaders in the number of Main Street
22 communities, certified historic tax rehabilitations, historic certified local governments, and

1 number of members of its state-wide historic preservation organization, the Georgia Trust
2 for Historic Preservation; and

3 WHEREAS, Rhodes Hall was a mansion built by Rhodes Furniture founder Amos Rhodes
4 and in 1930 became the first State Archives of Georgia and is now headquarters for the
5 Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
7 this body commends the Georgia historic preservation industry and recognizes, February 13,
8 2007, as "Historic Preservation Day."

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
10 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Department of
11 Community Affairs, the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, the Historic Preservation
12 Division of the Department of Natural Resources, and the University of Georgia.