

Senate Resolution 347

By: Senator Unterman of the 45th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and proclaiming February 27, 2007, as "Catholic Day at the Capitol" in the
2 State of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Catholic presence in Georgia began with a simple log church in Locust
4 Grove, Georgia, where the faithful began worshiping in 1790; and

5 WHEREAS, The Roman Catholic Diocese of Savannah was established July 3, 1850, with
6 its territory extending over the entire state of Georgia, including a total of about 5,000
7 Catholics; and

8 WHEREAS, The Diocese of Atlanta was established in 1956 by separating the northern 69
9 counties of this state, giving Georgia two dioceses; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1962, the Diocese of Atlanta was elevated to the status of Archdiocese,
11 becoming the center of an Ecclesiastical Province which now covers the states of Georgia,
12 North Carolina, and South Carolina; and

13 WHEREAS, The Diocese of Savannah now comprises 90 counties in south Georgia, serving
14 a Catholic population of approximately 75,398 Catholics in 52 parishes and 26 missions and
15 mission stations as well as five Catholic high schools and 17 elementary schools, three
16 Catholic hospitals, a residential child care facility, and a residential maternity facility, all
17 available to all persons without discrimination; and

18 WHEREAS, the Archdiocese of Atlanta now has a Catholic population of 650,000 through
19 82 parishes, 13 missions, seven high schools, 20 elementary schools, and two Catholic
20 hospitals, all available to all persons without discrimination; and

1 WHEREAS, The Archdiocese of Atlanta and the Diocese of Savannah have, through its
2 institutions and its people, blessed the State of Georgia with innumerable charitable service
3 open to all the people of this state.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that February 27, 2007, is
5 proclaimed "Catholic Day at the Capitol" in the State of Georgia in recognition of the
6 commitment of many members of the Catholic faith to the spiritual and temporal welfare of
7 the people of this state.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
9 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory,
10 Archbishop of Atlanta, and to the Most Reverend J. Kevin Boland, Bishop of Savannah.