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House Resolution 1168

By: Representatives Carter of the 175th, Black of the 174th, and Shaw of the 176th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the Azalea International Folk Fair and Dance Competition as Georgia's Official

- 2 International Festival; and for other purposes.
- 3 WHEREAS, south Georgia has historically existed as a large geographical region composed
- 4 of farmlands, woodlands, scattered rural communities, and a number of small towns; and

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- 6 WHEREAS, communities were insular, sparse, and disconnected, both from each other and
- 7 from the rest of the world; and
- 8 WHEREAS, many children in these communities grow up with limited horizons and few
- 9 connections beyond their own small areas; and
- 10 WHEREAS, geographic and historic isolation should not continue to be barriers to the
- 11 communities and schools in exploring, appreciating, and feeling a real connection to the big,
- wide world that is outside their boundaries; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the students and community members of south Georgia deserve the same
- 14 opportunities and access to knowledge and activities as those who live in large metropolitan
- 15 areas; and
- 16 WHEREAS, interactive programs informing and inspiring students to think about the stories
- 17 that are important to the world are common in large cities, but rare outside of urban areas;
- 18 and
- 19 WHEREAS, developing such programs and opportunities have become the driving force and
- 20 goal of activities of the Azalea International Folk Fair and Dance Competition; and

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1 WHEREAS, this distinctive and meaningful folk fair promotes lively exchange, provides

- 2 richly diverse entertainment, and enriches the social studies curriculum of the local schools
- 3 under one umbrella in the Valdosta-Lowndes County Conference Center.
- 4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
- 5 the Azalea International Folk Fair and Dance Competition is designated as Georgia's Official
- 6 International Festival.
- 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 public and the press.