

Senate Resolution 1395

By: Senators Wiles of the 37th, Hill of the 32nd, Rogers of the 21st, Hudgens of the 47th, Seabaugh of the 28th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the President and Congress of the United States to secure America's borders and
2 reject demands to repeat the failed 1986 legalization program for illegal aliens for the
3 protection of American jobs and our homeland; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama declared in his January 27, 2010, State of the Union
5 address that, "We should continue the work of fixing our broken immigration system – to
6 secure our borders and enforce our laws, and ensure that everyone who plays by the rules can
7 contribute to our economy and enrich our nation"; and

8 WHEREAS, the President further declared on February 5, 2010, "We can't be satisfied when
9 another 20,000 have joined their ranks and millions more Americans are underemployed,
10 picking up what work they can"; and

11 WHEREAS, the United States has proudly accepted more legal immigration than any other
12 nation in the world; and

13 WHEREAS, nearly 15 million Americans are currently without employment, and illegal
14 immigration takes jobs from Americans and lawfully present immigrants and places a heavy
15 burden on the State of Georgia to provide federally mandated benefits and services to illegal
16 aliens; and

17 WHEREAS, states across the country face mounting difficulties in dealing with the rampant
18 unemployment of citizens and lawful workers who have waited in line, played by the rules,
19 and legally joined the American family; and

20 WHEREAS, legalizing illegal immigrants who escaped capture while crossing American
21 borders is contrary to the basic principals of fairness and justice upon which this great
22 country was founded; and

23 WHEREAS, federal legislation in 1986 which legalized approximately 3 million illegal
24 aliens served only to reward illegal activity and to encourage further illegal immigration; and

25 WHEREAS, estimates of the number of illegal aliens currently present in the United States
26 are between 11 million and 20 million; and

27 WHEREAS, estimates of the number of illegal aliens in Georgia are between 450,000 and
28 1 million; and

29 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is unable to withstand the financial burden created by
30 illegal immigration; and

31 WHEREAS, illegal immigration threatens the security and public safety of all Georgians;
32 and

33 WHEREAS, illegal immigration negatively impacts all aspects of the State of Georgia,
34 including the economy, social services, education services, the criminal justice system, and
35 health care services; and

36 WHEREAS, Georgia's budget cannot withstand the added burden of benefits for which
37 presently illegal aliens would become eligible with the removal of illegal immigration status;
38 and

39 WHEREAS, an illegal labor market, fraudulent documents, and uncontrolled borders
40 undermine our national security; and

41 WHEREAS, enforcement of American immigration laws has proven to be the real solution
42 to encouraging illegal aliens to migrate out of the United States and Georgia and to reduce
43 further illegal immigration; and

44 WHEREAS, immigration reform must reflect and serve the interests and needs of the
45 American people by addressing the national issues of homeland security and the economy;
46 and

47 WHEREAS, any future immigration reform therefore must reject amnesty and be founded
48 on the principals of enforcement and border security; and

49 WHEREAS, it is the right and duty of each state to defend and protect its citizens from the
50 dangers and costs resulting from lack of border security and absence of strict immigration
51 law enforcement by the federal government; and

52 WHEREAS, this body should enthusiastically encourage the adoption of laws which enforce
53 federal immigration requirements.

54 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
55 urge the President and Congress of the United States to secure America's borders and reject
56 demands to repeat the failed 1986 legalization program for illegal aliens for the protection
57 of American jobs and our homeland.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
59 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to each member of the Georgia
60 congressional delegation and the President of the United States.