

House Resolution 2157

By: Representatives Smith of the 168th, Lane of the 167th, Amerson of the 9th, Dooley of the 38th, Stout of the 19th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the National Day of Prayer; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the National Day of Prayer tradition predates the founding of the United States
3 when the Continental Congress issued a proclamation setting aside a day of prayer in 1775;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, in 1863 Abraham Lincoln signed a Congressional Resolution calling for a
6 national day of prayer and in 1952, President Harry Truman signed into law a bill
7 proclaiming a national day of prayer which unanimously passed Congress; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1988, Congress designated the first Thursday in May as the National Day of
9 Prayer at the issuance of a proclamation by the President; and

10 WHEREAS, the theme of the 2010 National Day of Prayer is "Prayer for such a time as this,"
11 and is based upon Nahum 1:7: "The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He Cares for
12 those who trust in Him"; and

13 WHEREAS, as American troops continue fighting for liberty in various countries, American
14 citizens will celebrate their freedom to assemble, worship, and pray on the 59th annual
15 National Day of Prayer on May 6; and

16 WHEREAS, recently, United States District Court Judge Barbara Crabb ruled the National
17 Day of Prayer to be unconstitutional because it encourages all citizens to engage in prayer,
18 which she states is an inherently religious activity that serves no secular function; and

19 WHEREAS, it is important for Americans to openly unite in religious expression and to
20 show America's dependence on God through the exercise of our First Amendment rights; and

21 WHEREAS, prayer is a powerful, uniting force and the most basic and personal form of
22 expression for countless Americans and this tradition that dates back to George Washington
23 is time honored and a vital piece of this nation's history and legacy.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
25 the members of this body recognize the National Day of Prayer on May 6, 2010, and call
26 upon Georgians to join in this important observance.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
28 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to members of the public and
29 the press.