

Senate Resolution 459

By: Senator Hill of the 32nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing cultural, economic, and educational cooperation with the People's Republic of
2 China and recognizing March 17, 2009, as China Day at the state capitol; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, there is a bond of friendship between the citizens of Georgia and China, and the
5 people of Georgia welcome opportunities to grow our already deep relationship at all levels
6 including cultural, academic, and business; and

7 WHEREAS, Delta Air Lines provides daily nonstop flights from Atlanta to Shanghai which
8 will have a great economic impact on the southeastern United States; and

9 WHEREAS, through April 26, 2009, the High Museum of Art in Atlanta is hosting *The First*
10 *Emperor: China's Terracotta Army*, a once in a lifetime exhibition which includes more than
11 120 objects, some of which are new discoveries, and includes 23 life-size figures of warriors,
12 horses, and government officials — the largest grouping of these objects China has ever
13 loaned; and

14 WHEREAS, several Georgia cities have begun formal activity to finalize Sister City
15 relationships with numerous cities in China; and

16 WHEREAS, Georgia is proud that Georgia based companies such as the Coca-Cola
17 Company, United Parcel Service, Home Depot, Delta Air Lines, Inter-Continental Hotels,
18 John Portman & Associates, CNN, AJC International, Inc., GE Energy, Char-Broil,
19 Concurrent Computer Corporation, and Micrometrics have operations in China; and

20 WHEREAS, celebrating 31 years of successful Chinese economic reform since 1978,
21 Georgia is proud that a growing number of Chinese companies such as COSCO North
22 America, Kingwasong LLC, Yat Ming USA, Inc., Ecotech Machinery, Inc., SANY

23 AMERICA, General Protecht, and New West International, Inc. have operations in Georgia;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, the China Governance and Development Program of the International Center
26 for Democratic Governance with the Carl Vinson Institute at the University of Georgia foster
27 strong ties between Georgia and China by providing governmental training and technical
28 assistance to visiting delegations of Chinese officials on an annual basis; and

29 WHEREAS, Kennesaw State University is home to the China Research Center, the
30 SINO-American Education Consortium, the Center for International Programs, and the
31 Chinese Proficiency Testing Center; and

32 WHEREAS, many other Georgia colleges and universities also have ties with China, among
33 them Emory University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia Southern University,
34 Georgia State University, and Valdosta State University; and

35 WHEREAS, approximately 1,500 Chinese students study in Georgia universities, 140
36 Chinese faculty members work in Georgia's universities, and hundreds of students from
37 Georgia have participated in numerous study abroad and student exchange programs with
38 Chinese universities; and

39 WHEREAS, China is a top destination for Georgia exports, including paper, food products,
40 minerals, ore, nonmetallic mineral products, forestry products, textiles, and textile mill
41 products; and

42 WHEREAS, Georgia imports products and goods from China through the Savannah Customs
43 District with top imports including industrial and electrical machinery, furniture, toys, games,
44 iron and steel products, and plastics; and

45 WHEREAS, the Georgia Ports Authority and the Shanghai International Port Group signed
46 an agreement to promote jointly all-water shipping routes and trade opportunities between
47 Shanghai and the Port of Savannah; and

48 WHEREAS, Georgia is proud to be home to the Georgia China Alliance, the Atlanta Chapter
49 of the National Association of Chinese Americans, the Chinese Business Association of
50 Atlanta, the Association of Chinese Professionals, the Hong Kong Association of Atlanta,
51 and the Asian-American Chamber of Commerce.

52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
53 hereby recognize the special friendship between Georgia and the People's Republic of China
54 and express our appreciation to Her Excellency Qiao Hong, the Consul General of China,
55 Houston Consulate, for her efforts to promote peace and grow commercial, cultural, and
56 educational ties between our two nations.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body recognize
58 March 17, 2009, as China Day at the state capitol.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
60 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Her Excellency Qiao Hong.