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House Resolution 715

By: Representatives Byrd of the 20th, Greene of the 149th, Wilkinson of the 52nd, Hill of the 21st, Anderson of the 117th, and others

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

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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
- 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
- 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
- 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.

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52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that

- 53 the members of this body hereby recognize the special friendship between Georgia and the
- 54 People's Republic of China and express our appreciation to Her Excellency Qiao Hong, the
- 55 Consul General of China, Houston Consulate, for her efforts to promote peace and grow
- 56 commercial, cultural, and educational ties between our two nations.
- 57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that the
- 58 members of this body recognize March 17, 2009, as China Day at the state capitol.
- 59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Her Excellency Qiao Hong.