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House Resolution 803

By: Representative Yates of the 73<sup>rd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing the Mount Zion United Methodist Campground on the occasion of its 175th
- 2 anniversary; and for other purposes.
- 3 WHEREAS, located less than a mile from Highway 16 in Western Spalding County,
- 4 Georgia, the Mount Zion United Methodist Campground celebrates 175 years of tradition
- 5 and festivities this year; and
- 6 WHEREAS, organized in 1834, the Mount Zion United Methodist Campground held its first
- 7 revival meeting under brush arbors that were later replaced with the construction of a small
- 8 tabernacle; and
- 9 WHEREAS, meetings were held each year in late August in order for people in the area to
- 10 attend worship services and live on the campgrounds while participating in praise and
- 11 fellowship; and
- 12 WHEREAS, families from miles around would gather at the campground, bringing most of
- 13 the contents of their home and their farms such as livestock and furniture; and
- 14 WHEREAS, the original tabernacle was used for many years until the Civil War, when
- 15 deterioration called for the structure to be rebuilt; and
- 16 WHEREAS, an initial fund raiser secured \$3,000 for the new structure and timber from the
- 17 over 200 acres of the campground property were used to build the tabernacle and the pews,
- 18 with construction completing in 1870; and
- 19 WHEREAS, sadly, the structure was struck by lightning in 1959 and burned completely to
- 20 the ground, causing the annual gathering to be held under a large tent; and

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21 WHEREAS, shortly after the fire, a new structure was built and the ministry continued to

- 22 thrive and prosper; and
- 23 WHEREAS, in the 1970's the church organized a youth program that has remained a success
- 24 over the years and brings together children from pre-school to college age to learn about the
- 25 Word of God and create life-long friendships; and
- 26 WHEREAS, the long-standing annual meeting has been moved from August to July and lasts
- a week, but the tradition and motivation behind the original campground meetings have
- 28 remained the same for the last 175 years.
- 29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
- 30 the members of this body commend the Mount Zion United Methodist Campground for its
- 31 rich tradition of spiritual revival and extend their most sincere congratulations on the
- 32 occasion of its 175th anniversary.
- 33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- 34 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Mount Zion United
- 35 Methodist Campground.