

Senate Resolution 813

By: Senators Heath of the 31st, Butterworth of the 50th, Williams of the 19th, Goggans of the 7th, Seabaugh of the 28th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 14, 2010, as Sportsmen's Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has a great heritage of hunting and fishing that is enjoyed
4 by 1.1 million Georgia residents each year; and

5 WHEREAS, hunting and fishing generates \$198 million in state and local tax revenue
6 annually, directly supports 31,000 jobs in Georgia, and has a total economic impact of \$3
7 billion annually; and

8 WHEREAS, Georgia is now the number one hunting destination state in this nation; and

9 WHEREAS, license fees from hunters and anglers are the primary source for wildlife
10 management area land acquisition in Georgia, totaling over 100,000 acres since the late
11 1980's with annual lease payments on approximately 225,000 acres of wildlife areas; and

12 WHEREAS, these natural lands not only provide hunting and fishing opportunities to
13 Georgia citizens, but are also used by bird-watchers, hikers, campers, and educational
14 groups; and

15 WHEREAS, license fees and excise taxes from hunters and anglers have funded the
16 successful restoration of white-tailed deer, wild turkey, black bear, bobwhite quail, and wood
17 ducks in Georgia and have been used for the stocking of millions of game fish in lakes and
18 rivers all over this state; and

19 WHEREAS, the sportsmen and sportswomen of Georgia, and the conservation organizations
20 that they support privately with millions of dollars each year, work to preserve our state's
21 natural lands and wildlife, which includes nongame as well as game animals.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
23 recognize the importance of hunting and fishing to the people of Georgia and its economy
24 and declare Thursday, January 14, 2010, as Sportsmen's Day at the state capitol.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
26 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Legislative Sportsmen's
27 Caucus.