

House Resolution 1257

By: Representative Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 23, 2010, as the Netherlands Day at the state capitol; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the United States' partnership with the Netherlands is one of its oldest  
4 continuous relationships and dates back to the American Revolution; and

5 WHEREAS, the excellent bilateral relations are based on close historical and cultural ties,  
6 as well as a common dedication to individual freedom and human rights; and

7 WHEREAS, the United States attaches great value to its strong economic and commercial  
8 ties with the Dutch: in 2007, the Netherlands had \$209 billion invested in this country,  
9 making it the fourth-largest direct foreign investor in the United States, and the United States  
10 had \$370 billion invested in the Netherlands, making it the second-largest direct foreign  
11 investor in the Netherlands; and

12 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia and the Country of the Netherlands currently have  
13 significant and mutually beneficial economic ties, including but not limited to the location  
14 in this state of a number of facilities operated by leading Dutch industries; and

15 WHEREAS, in Georgia, more than 70 Dutch companies have established over 300 operating  
16 facilities, investing over \$2.5 billion and employing over 25,000 people; and

17 WHEREAS, such economic ties provide jobs for Georgians, and it is in the best interest of  
18 this state to increase such opportunities through expanded Dutch industrial operations,  
19 businesses, and investments in this state; and

20 WHEREAS, it is the desire of this body to encourage greater collaborations and exchanges  
21 between Georgia and the Netherlands in fields of real estate development, communications,

22 electronics, financial services, staffing services, cut flowers, poultry, scientific research,  
23 environmental sustainable energy, medicine, and commerce; and

24 WHEREAS, it also will be mutually beneficial to foster stronger cultural ties and exchanges  
25 between this state and the Netherlands by means such as foreign student exchange programs  
26 between institutions of higher learning and efforts of the cities in both nations to boost  
27 cultural, educational, and economic exchanges.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
29 the members of this body recognize and observe the Netherlands Day at the state capitol on  
30 February 23, 2010, and heartily support efforts to promote cultural, economic, and  
31 commercial exchanges between Georgia and the Netherlands.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
33 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mrs. Renée Jones-Bos,  
34 Ambassador of the Netherlands to the United States, and Mr. Ewoud Swaak, Honorary  
35 Consul of the Netherlands for the State of Georgia.