

## House Resolution 1290

By: Representatives Parrish of the 156<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Jones of the 46<sup>th</sup>, Ralston of the 7<sup>th</sup>, Keen of the 179<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 12, 2010, as Hungary Day at the state capitol and inviting Ambassador  
2 of Hungary Béla Szombati to be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other  
3 purposes.

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

7 WHEREAS, Ambassador Béla Szombati has long been recognized for his role in leadership  
8 and his deep personal commitment to fostering diplomatic relationships with countries  
9 around the world; and

10 WHEREAS, approximately 20 years ago, on May 29, 1989, the Hungarian government in  
11 Budapest ordered the dismantling of the 150-mile-long fence along the Austrian border,  
12 resulting in the first visible crack in the Iron Curtain; and

13 WHEREAS, on September 11, 1989, Hungary formally opened her borders, thereby igniting  
14 free emigration by citizens from behind the Iron Curtain to countries of Western  
15 democracies; and

16 WHEREAS, weeks after the Austrian border of Hungary was opened, the Berlin Wall fell,  
17 the Velvet Revolution took place in Prague, the people of Romania deposed a brutal dictator  
18 during a bloody revolution, and the Soviet Union fell; and

19 WHEREAS, most nations of the former Soviet Bloc chose a democratic way of life, making  
20 it possible for Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Poland to join NATO ten years later; and

21 WHEREAS, today Hungary, as well as most of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe,  
22 are faithful allies of the United States and proud members of the European Union; and

23 WHEREAS, Ambassador Szombati's visit will cement the already close and friendly  
24 connections between the State of Georgia and the Republic of Hungary and further promote  
25 business and cultural ties between our state and Hungary.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
27 the members of this body hereby recognize the special friendship between the State of  
28 Georgia and the Republic of Hungary and declare February 12, 2010, as Hungary Day at the  
29 state capitol.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that appreciation is expressed to Ambassador Béla Szombati  
31 for his efforts to promote peace and grow commercial, cultural, and educational ties between  
32 our two nations and invite him to be recognized by the House of Representatives at a date  
33 and time to be specified by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Ambassador Béla Szombati.