

## House Resolution 158

By: Representatives Burns of the 157<sup>th</sup>, McCall of the 30<sup>th</sup>, England of the 108<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 70<sup>th</sup>, Roberts of the 154<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing February 9, 2011, as "Forestry Day at the Capitol"; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, forestry is a leading industry in this state, creating more than 180,000 jobs and  
3 having a \$28 billion annual economic impact in this state; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Georgia's 24 million total acres of forests represent the major land use in the  
5 state, occupying two-thirds of Georgia's total land area of 37 million acres; and
- 6 WHEREAS, 22 million acres of Georgia's forestland, which is 92 percent of Georgia's total  
7 forestland, is owned by private landowners and available for commercial use, more than in  
8 any other state; and
- 9 WHEREAS, timber is the highest value crop in this state, and Georgia remains one of the top  
10 pulp and paper producing states in the nation; and
- 11 WHEREAS, Georgia's forests are not only economically important but also provide vital  
12 environmental, educational, and social benefits; and
- 13 WHEREAS, wood, fiber, paper, and paperboard represent top exports out of Georgia's ports;  
14 and
- 15 WHEREAS, the Georgia Forestry Association (GFA), founded in 1907, has provided 104  
16 years of service to the state and to a vast community of forest landowners, businesses, and  
17 forestry professionals; and
- 18 WHEREAS, the Georgia Forestry Association is one of the oldest conservation organizations  
19 in the United States, and through the years GFA has worked with landowners in protecting  
20 their property rights and adopting sound land management practices to ensure that our forests

21 are managed in a sustainable manner and continue to provide clean air, clean water, soil  
22 conservation, wildlife habitat, beauty, and recreational opportunities; and

23 WHEREAS, the Georgia Forestry Association is the sponsoring organization for the  
24 Sustainable Forestry Initiative and thus promotes best management practices for forestry,  
25 responsible wood procurement practices, wildlife habitat enhancement, and educational  
26 outreach to Georgia's forest landowners; and

27 WHEREAS, it is only fitting and proper that the significant contributions made by the  
28 industry and organization to the welfare of this state be recognized.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
30 the members of this body recognize February 9, 2011, as "Forestry Day at the Capitol" in  
31 honor of the significant contributions made to the welfare of this state by forestry and the  
32 Georgia Forestry Association.

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 Georgia Forestry  
35 Association.