

House Resolution 261

By: Representative Harden of the 28<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 10, 2011, as Toccoa-Stephens County's *Fireworks Over Toccoa Day*;  
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the City of Toccoa was established in 1874, and legend says it was named by  
4 the Cherokee tribe who called the area "Toccocah," which means "beautiful"; and

5 WHEREAS, Stephens County was created in 1905 and named for Alexander Stephens, who  
6 served as a United States Representative from 1843 to 1859 and Governor of Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, the City of Toccoa and Stephens County have been recognized for numerous  
8 awards and accolades over the years, including a Signature Community city by the  
9 Department of Community Affairs and an Entrepreneur Friendly county by Governor Sonny  
10 Perdue; and

11 WHEREAS, the Toccoa-Stephens County Chamber of Commerce was designated with  
12 4-Star accreditation by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2009 and is committed to serving  
13 as an advocate for local businesses, a community partner, and an economic growth generator;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the mission of the Toccoa-Stephens County Development Authority is to  
16 encourage and support the expansion and development of industrial and commercial facilities  
17 in Stephens County in order to promote employment; and

18 WHEREAS, the school board was recognized as a Board of Distinction by the Georgia  
19 School Boards Association in 2009, and Stephens County Hospital, the Toccoa Clinic, and  
20 local cancer treatment and dialysis centers provide high quality and efficient medical  
21 services; and

22 WHEREAS, the area has been home for 36 years to the Toccoa Symphony and the Chorus  
23 and Community Theater, providing a community that balances work and play; and

24 WHEREAS, in March 2010, a book called *Fireworks Over Toccoa* by Jeffrey Stepakoff was  
25 published by St. Martin's press about a young girl married for just days before her husband  
26 was sent abroad to fight in World War II; and

27 WHEREAS, Toccoa-Stephens County's *Fireworks Over Toccoa* Day was inspired by Mr.  
28 Stepakoff's amazing book; and

29 WHEREAS, incredible leaders call Toccoa-Stephens County home, including Chairman of  
30 the Stephens County Commission J.B. Hudgins, Mayor of Toccoa Janice English, Chairman  
31 of the Development Authority Board Cam Parker, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce  
32 Board Lee Hicks, Chairman of the Chamber's Government Affairs Committee Lee Hicks,  
33 Executive Director of the Development Authority Tim Martin, and President of the Chamber  
34 of Commerce Wendi Bailey; and

35 WHEREAS, a county that supports great economic growth for the state and has such rich  
36 history and traditions is worthy of recognition by this body.

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
38 the members of this body recognize the great achievements of Toccoa-Stephens County and  
39 its citizens and recognize February 10, 2011, as Toccoa-Stephens County's *Fireworks Over*  
40 *Toccoa* Day.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
42 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to members of the public and  
43 the press.