

## Senate Resolution 172

By: Senators Hill of the 4th and Williams of the 19th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Georgia Farmer of the Year and Southeastern Farmer of the  
2 Year, Mr. Robert Dasher; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Robert Dasher of Glennville has been recognized as Georgia's Farmer of  
4 the Year and Southeastern Farmer of the Year by Swisher Sweets/Sunbelt Expo; and

5 WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Mr. Dasher joined his older brother, Gerald,  
6 in the family farm of G&R Farms, a farming enterprise that now covers 4,000 acres, with an  
7 additional 800 leased acres; and

8 WHEREAS, since his brother's passing in 2003, Mr. Dasher has run G&R Farms with his  
9 nephew, Walt; Gerald's wife, Pam; and his own sons, Heath and Blake; and

10 WHEREAS, best known as one of the top producers of Vidalia sweet onions, G&R Farms  
11 is also known for its production of corn, soybeans, peanuts, hay, wheat, rye, and pecans; and

12 WHEREAS, in the early 1980's, G&R Farms built their own new 40,000 square foot onion  
13 packing and shipping complex and a few years later became one of the first farming  
14 enterprises to invest in controlled atmosphere storage that holds up to 220,000 bushels of  
15 onions and allows them to be kept for longer periods; and

16 WHEREAS, G&R Farms has specially fabricated onion dryers that kill bacteria, and the farm  
17 was the leader in the initial shift from packaging onions in boxes instead of bags and has  
18 further innovated packaging by grouping onions in two, three, five, and ten pound packages;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, the farm operation keeps about ten people employed on the farm year-round and  
21 employs another 20 in the timber facet as truck drivers and on the skidder equipment; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Dasher has served as a director of the National Onion Association, a  
23 member of the Vidalia Onion Committee board, and chairman of the Vidalia Business  
24 Council; and

25 WHEREAS, he is active with the Young Farmers Association and the Farm Bureau of  
26 Tattnall County and was named the Vidalia Onion Grower of the Year in 2004; and

27 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the extraordinary accomplishments of  
28 this distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
30 recognize Mr. Robert Dasher for his dedication and commitment to farming and congratulate  
31 him upon his recognition as Georgia Farmer of the Year and Southeastern Farmer of the  
32 Year.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
34 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Robert Dasher.