

House Resolution 473

By: Representatives Smith of the 70th and Hudson of the 124th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the McDuffie/Warren County Forestry Unit on being named
2 the Georgia Forestry Commission 2010 Northern Unit of the Year and inviting them to
3 appear before the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the mission of the Georgia Forestry Commission is "to provide leadership,
5 service, and education in the protection and conservation of Georgia's forest resources"; and

6 WHEREAS, one forestry unit is selected each year as the Georgia Forestry Commission's
7 Northern Unit of the Year based on various measures of accomplishments that are weighed
8 and voted upon by the Georgia Forestry Commission's Leadership; and

9 WHEREAS, the McDuffie/Warren County Forestry Unit's most notable achievements
10 include almost doubling their seedling sales compared to the previous year, managing
11 inopportune weather conditions by working weekends to serve landowners, installing 309
12 miles of firebreaks, assisting with 1,109 acres of prescribed burning, providing forest
13 management advice on 1,656 acres, unit professionals handling multiple additional
14 responsibilities including district radio programming, filling in as acting assistant district
15 manager when needed, organizing community presentations, assisting on multiple projects
16 such as road maintenance at Spirit Creek Educational Forest, and hosting and leading many
17 district training programs; and

18 WHEREAS, in addition, the forestry unit maintained outstanding wildfire protection of
19 McDuffie County and Warren County's 255,716 forested acres during a wildfire season that
20 resulted in the damage or loss in Georgia of over \$5.2 million worth of personal property and
21 threatened an additional \$249 million worth of personal property; and

22 WHEREAS, due to these outstanding accomplishments of the McDuffie/Warren County
23 Forestry Unit in the year 2010, the unit was selected as the Georgia Forestry Commission's
24 Northern Unit of the Year; and

25 WHEREAS, the unit consists of dedicated Georgia Forestry Commission professional
26 rangers John Crawford, Chris Cason, David Cheely, Forester John Sunday, and
27 Secretary/Dispatcher Laverne Davis serving under the leadership of Chief Ranger Gene
28 "Hal" Sharpe; and

29 WHEREAS, the accomplishments of the McDuffie/Warren County Forestry Unit are a clear
30 indication of the dedication, teamwork of the individuals at the unit, their ability to overcome
31 obstacles in order to accomplish the goals of the group, and their complete devotion to
32 Georgia's citizens and their fellow Georgia Forestry Commission professionals; and

33 WHEREAS, the McDuffie/Warren County Forestry Unit brings great pride to the citizens
34 of McDuffie and Warren counties, the Washington District, the Georgia Forestry
35 Commission, and the entire State of Georgia; and

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 the members of this body commend the McDuffie/Warren County Forestry Unit for being
38 named the 2010 Northern Unit of the Year.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the dedicated Professionals of the McDuffie/Warren
40 County Forestry Unit are invited to appear before the House of Representatives on a date and
41 at a time designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
43 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Chief Ranger Gene "Hal"
44 Sharpe.