

House Resolution 748

By: Representative Hatfield of the 177<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Susan Lott Clark; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, *The Unusual Story of the Okefenokee Heritage Center and Southern Forest*  
3 *World* is a book published in 2010 by its author, Susan Lott Clark; and

4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Clark is a descendant of early settlers of Waycross, Georgia, and lived  
5 there as an adult while married to Dr. S. William Clark, M.D., until his death in 2003; and

6 WHEREAS, she was a member of the Waycross Service League in 1964 when that group  
7 began exploring the creation of a children's museum for their community, and she became  
8 of leader of the movement to create what would become the Okefenokee Heritage Center;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, *The Unusual Story* is a 641 page collection of hundreds of new and old narrative  
11 accounts, press clippings, drawings, photographs, advertisements, and other material, all  
12 designed to tell the story of the Okefenokee Heritage Center and its companion museum,  
13 Southern Forest World; and

14 WHEREAS, the book also tells the history of Waycross and the region in which it is found,  
15 from the days of Native occupancy, through the era of colonial settlement, and the period of  
16 the early Republic; and

17 WHEREAS, the history of this region is also necessarily the history of the Great Okefenokee  
18 Swamp, a landmark noted throughout the world for its natural beauty and bounty; and

19 WHEREAS, also included is the history of the modern industrial age in southeast Georgia,  
20 a time that began with the coming of the railroads, and the role of that industry in the  
21 transformation of Waycross from a trading post to a rail junction and city; and

22 WHEREAS, an entire section of the book is dedicated to the role of African Americans in  
23 the story of Waycross and Ware County, with special notice taken of the world-wide success  
24 of hometown native, actor Ossie Davis; and

25 WHEREAS, generations of Waycross and Ware County citizens have grown up with  
26 knowledge of their community and its history made possible by the Okefenokee Heritage  
27 Center; and

28 WHEREAS, *The Unusual Story of the Okefenokee Heritage Center* is a documentary record  
29 of achievement any community would point to with pride, and it is fitting that author Susan  
30 Lott Clark and her work be recognized.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
32 the members of this body commend Susan Lott Clark for her authorship of *The Unusual*  
33 *Story of the Okefenokee Heritage Center and Southern Forest World* and her contributions  
34 to the welfare of her community and this state.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
36 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Susan Lott Clark.