

Senate Resolution 1121

By: Senators Bulloch of the 11th, Hooks of the 14th, Shafer of the 48th, Ginn of the 47th and Tolleson of the 20th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing 2012 as the Georgia Year of Cooperatives; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, cooperatives are businesses that are owned and operated by their members and
3 not only serve the interests of their members but also dedicate substantial human and
4 financial resources to serve their communities beyond their business functions; and

5 WHEREAS, more than 300 cooperatives operate state-wide in a wide variety of industries
6 that span agriculture, child care, energy, supply and marketing, housing, health care,
7 insurance, telecommunications, and financial services including credit unions; and

8 WHEREAS, cooperatives in Georgia collectively generate nearly 11,000 jobs and make a
9 substantial contribution to the economy with annual revenues of \$6 billion and total assets
10 of \$29 billion; and

11 WHEREAS, concern for the community is a core guiding cooperative principle and the
12 community commitment of cooperatives enhances economic opportunity and improves
13 quality of life in Georgia's cities and towns; and

14 WHEREAS, this includes charitable giving that meets the needs of underserved populations,
15 investment in community development that generates jobs and income and helps create vital
16 services, contributions and involvement in environmental protection activities, financial
17 education to empower people to improve their economic situations, innovative projects that
18 improve child health and welfare, and support of quality education; and

19 WHEREAS, cooperatives in Georgia joined together more than two decades ago to create
20 a state-wide council whose current members include the Dairy Farmers of America, Eatonton
21 Cooperative Feed Company, Edison Gin Cooperative, Maryland and Virginia Milk
22 Producers, Progressive Rural Telephone Cooperative, Southern States, Staplcotn

23 Cooperative, the Farm Credit Association, CoBank, and Georgia's Electric Membership
24 Corporations; and

25 WHEREAS, the Georgia Cooperative Council's ongoing mission is to promote and foster
26 cooperatives and to educate Georgians about cooperatives and the vital role they play in
27 growing and supporting the nation's economy; and

28 WHEREAS, during the year of 2012 cooperatives across Georgia are pleased to join in
29 celebrating the 2012 International Year of Cooperatives as designated by the United Nations
30 General Assembly.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 commend the achievements of Georgia's cooperatives and its members and recognize 2012
33 as the Georgia Year of Cooperatives.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
35 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the public and the press.