

## Senate Resolution 1219

By: Senators Orrock of the 36th, Fort of the 39th, Henson of the 41st, Stoner of the 6th, Staton of the 18th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing independent bookstores and commending independent booksellers; and for  
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the independent bookstores of Georgia are valuable cultural resources that  
4 contribute greatly to the fabric of this state and the communities which they serve; and

5 WHEREAS, independent bookstores are locally owned small businesses that hire local  
6 employees, buy local supplies, bank locally, hire local attorneys, accountants, designers,  
7 artists, computer technicians, and other professionals, advertise in local media, and occupy  
8 physical retail space, thereby strengthening communities by circulating a larger share of  
9 revenues in the local economy than chain stores or online retailers; and

10 WHEREAS, independent bookstores support state and local governments by collecting sales  
11 taxes which pay for local schools, public safety, roads, sidewalks, and other infrastructure  
12 that contribute to a better quality of life in the community; and

13 WHEREAS, independent bookstores promote literacy in the community and often support  
14 local schools and libraries with reading programs, book clubs, charitable book sales, and  
15 direct contributions and donations; and

16 WHEREAS, studies have shown that local businesses donate to community causes at more  
17 than twice the rate of chains and 100 percent more than online retailers; and

18 WHEREAS, independent bookstores often serve as cultural centers which host literary and  
19 educational events, seminars, lectures, workshops, story times for children, and other events  
20 which provide value to the community; and

21 WHEREAS, Georgia authors often depend on independent bookstores to promote and  
22 introduce their works to an audience of readers that the author may not otherwise reach, and

23 many famous Georgia authors owe their success to independent booksellers who believed  
24 in their work and helped make them known to wider audiences, as well as regional and  
25 national publishers and editors; and

26 WHEREAS, independent bookstores are each unique, displaying the individual personalities  
27 of their owners and contributing to commercial diversity, making communities more  
28 interesting and attractive.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
30 commend Georgia's independent bookstores, their owners, and their staff for their invaluable  
31 contributions to this state, their creativity and resourcefulness, and the spirit of  
32 entrepreneurship they exhibit, which is the foundation of American enterprise.

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 the public and the press.