

House Resolution 36

By: Representative Holmes of the 129th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 29, 2013, as Tourism & Hospitality Day at the state capitol; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, after many years of collaborative meetings, the Georgia Agritourism
4 Association was officially incorporated in 2010 to fill the collective needs for Georgia's
5 growing agritourism industry; and

6 WHEREAS, Agritourism is recognized as any activity directly associated with a farm or
7 ranch property that invites members of the public for recreational, entertainment, or
8 educational purposes or to use, harvest, view, or enjoy agricultural products, property,
9 resources, history, culture, and domesticated or wild animals; and

10 WHEREAS, the Georgia Agritourism Association is enabling, supporting, and promoting
11 Georgia's agritourism enterprises, educating and informing constituents on the values of
12 agritourism, and encouraging the highest standards of hospitality and business practices; and

13 WHEREAS, the mission of the Georgia Agritourism Association is advocacy, education,
14 networking, and marketing to facilitate and create new economic growth opportunities for
15 its members and the State of Georgia through increased agritourism and profitable
16 agribusiness; and

17 WHEREAS, the total economic impact of agriculture and nature based tourism in Georgia
18 is \$223 million, creating 3,138 jobs, and generating approximately \$13 million in sales tax
19 revenue; and

20 WHEREAS, the agritourism industry continues to grow in Georgia with more than 600
21 diverse agritourism/nature based enterprises currently operating in the state; and

22 WHEREAS, the Georgia Agritourism Association serves as a vehicle to bring together the
23 diverse agritourism operations and state agencies and private organizations across the
24 Southeast to further enhance the opportunities for farm operators to invite the public on their
25 farms; and

26 WHEREAS, leadership in the Georgia Agritourism Association is 100% composed of those
27 who are out there on the frontlines of agritourism and keeping rural Georgia growing.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
29 the members of this body commend the Georgia Agritourism Association and its members
30 for their years of providing families fun and educational opportunities on the farm and
31 recognize the significant contributions of the Georgia Agritourism Association during the
32 observance of Tourism & Hospitality Day at the state capitol on January 29, 2013.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
34 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Agritourism
35 Association.