

## House Resolution 111

By: Representatives McCall of the 33<sup>rd</sup> and England of the 116<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 29, 2013, as Tourism & Hospitality Day at the state capitol and inviting  
2 members of the Georgia Agritourism Association to be recognized by the House of  
3 Representatives; and for other purposes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
30 the members of this body commend the Georgia Agritourism Association and its members  
31 for their years of providing families fun and educational opportunities on the farm, recognize  
32 the significant contributions of the Georgia Agritourism Association during the observance  
33 of Tourism & Hospitality Day at the state capitol on January 29, 2013, and invite members  
34 of the Georgia Agritourism Association to be recognized by the House of Representatives  
35 at a date and time to be determined by the Speaker of the House.

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