

## House Resolution 4

By: Representatives Geisinger of the 48<sup>th</sup>, Jones of the 47<sup>th</sup>, O`Neal of the 146<sup>th</sup>, Abrams of the 89<sup>th</sup>, Lindsey of the 54<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing a settlement of the boundary dispute between the State of Georgia and the State  
2 of Tennessee; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, when the State of Georgia ceded the Mississippi Territory to the United States,  
4 the northern border of the State of Georgia and the southern border of the State of Tennessee  
5 was established at the 35th parallel of north latitude and would have been located on the  
6 northernmost bank of the Tennessee River at Nickajack; and

7 WHEREAS, a flawed survey conducted in 1818 erroneously placed the mark of the 35th  
8 parallel approximately one mile south of the actual location of the 35th parallel of north  
9 latitude; and

10 WHEREAS, since that time, numerous resolutions and enactments by the State of Georgia  
11 and the State of Tennessee have recognized that there is a problem with this boundary  
12 between the states; but, despite these actions by the governments of the State of Georgia and  
13 the State of Tennessee, there has been no resolution to this continuing dispute; and

14 WHEREAS, it is to the public interest and welfare that the boundary between these states be  
15 established and proclaimed; and

16 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia proposes to the State of Tennessee that the dispute be  
17 resolved by the states agreeing that the current boundary between the two states reflecting  
18 the flawed 1818 survey be adopted as the legal boundary between the states except for an  
19 area described as follows which shall be made a part of the State of Georgia by which  
20 Georgia shall be able to exercise its riparian water rights to the Tennessee River at  
21 Nickajack:

22 Beginning at the present intersection of the boundaries of the states of Alabama, Georgia,  
23 and Tennessee based upon the 1818 survey, which shall be the point of beginning, proceed  
24 north-northwesterly from such point along a line extended from the Georgia-Alabama

25 border if such border line was extended north-northwesterly in a straight line to the 35th  
26 parallel of north latitude; thence east along the 35th parallel of north latitude for a distance  
27 of approximately one and one-half miles; thence south-southeasterly along a line parallel  
28 to the line running from the point of beginning to the 35th parallel of north latitude first  
29 described herein to the intersection with the present boundary between Tennessee and  
30 Georgia based on the 1818 survey; thence west along such boundary to the point of  
31 beginning; and

32 WHEREAS, if such resolution of the boundary dispute is acceptable to the State of  
33 Tennessee, the legislatures of both states shall adopt resolutions agreeing to such proposal  
34 and shall submit such resolutions to the United States Congress for approval in accordance  
35 with law for establishing state boundaries.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
37 GEORGIA that the members of this body propose to the State of Tennessee a settlement of  
38 the boundary dispute between the State of Georgia and the State of Tennessee as provided  
39 in this resolution, urge the State of Tennessee to accept this proposed settlement and resolve  
40 the boundary dispute for the benefit of the citizens of both states, and authorize the Governor  
41 to enter into any necessary negotiations with the State of Tennessee on behalf of the citizens  
42 of this state to resolve this dispute.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
44 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Governor Nathan Deal and  
45 the Governor and legislature of the State of Tennessee.