

Senate Resolution 9

By: Senator James of the 35th

**ADOPTED SENATE**

**A RESOLUTION**

1 Urging the Department of Economic Development to promote and strengthen mutually  
2 beneficial ties with African nations; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, it is in the economic interest of this state to promote and strengthen mutually  
4 beneficial ties with nations of Africa.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
6 urge the Department of Economic Development, to the extent authorized by law and subject  
7 to available funds, to:

8 (1) Promote the State of Georgia and the Atlanta area as the gateway for business with  
9 Africa;

10 (2) Work in collaboration with the Africa Heritage Foundation in order to successfully  
11 execute the underlying objectives endorsed by the Africa Heritage Foundation and the Africa  
12 Union Commission;

13 (3) Promote, encourage, and facilitate the location of African consulates general in  
14 Georgia and the Atlanta area;

15 (4) Develop a partnership with historically black colleges to promote and create  
16 international studies programs, study abroad programs, and student exchange programs;

17 (5) Promote the port of Savannah as the main center for cargo shipment of goods  
18 between Africa and the United States;

19 (6) Promote Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport as the main center for air passenger  
20 and cargo services between Africa and the United States;

21 (7) Encourage the Africa Village that represents 55 nations of Africa to locate in  
22 Georgia;

23 (8) Encourage the Africa Heritage Diaspora Radio and TV headquarters to locate in  
24 Georgia;

25 (9) Encourage and support the establishment of the Africa Heritage Foundation Institute  
26 of Oceanography and Marine Research in collaboration with the Georgia Ports Authority and  
27 Savannah State University;

(10) Encourage and support the establishment of the Africa Heritage Foundation's Institute of Ethics Leadership to provide human resources and related training in cooperation with the University System of Georgia for all of the 55 African nations;

(11) Encourage and support the establishment of the Africa Heritage Foundation's headquarters, titled the 'Africa House,' in the vicinity of the Centennial Olympic Park to house diaspora tourism and cultural programs for all of the 55 African nations as well as to serve as the headquarters of the foundation's global operations and its USAFRICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE;

(12) Encourage and support the establishment of the Africa Heritage Foundation's headquarters for the purpose of making the city of Atlanta and the State of Georgia the international headquarters of the foundation chapters in all the 55 nations of Africa and the Diaspora, including Brazil, Australia, and the Caribbean as well as the proposed chapters of the Foundation in all the 50 states in the United States;

(13) Encourage and support the establishment of the Africa Heritage Foundation Institute of African Nations Science and Technology to be located in the State of Georgia and work in collaboration and partnership with Georgia Institute of Technology;

(14) Encourage and support the launching of a monthly 'Africa Open for Business' forum and related networking, job creation, and investment opportunities;

(15) Establish or promote the establishment of an African world museum and center in the Atlanta area;

(16) Establish or promote the establishment of an African heritage world cultural and tourism festival to take place annually in Georgia to promote cultural diversity and tourism;

(17) Establish or promote the establishment of one or more African heritage research institutes in Georgia;

(18) Establish or promote the establishment of one or more African heritage foundations, chambers of commerce, economic conferences, and expositions in Georgia;

(19) Establish or promote the establishment of one or more African food culture festivals in Georgia;

(20) Generally promote economic development for Africa and the State of Georgia;

(21) Promote the education and training of doctors and other health care professionals to provide modern health care and facilities in Africa and Georgia; and

(22) Train and educate legislators about the policy making process in Africa and America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the commissioner of economic development.