

House Resolution 756

By: Representative Kidd of the 145th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Requesting that the Governor of Georgia recognize the economic impact that the closing of
2 Central State Hospital and the closing of the Georgia Power Plant Branch will have on the
3 counties of Baldwin, Hancock, and Putnam; and for other purposes.
- 4 WHEREAS, the area encompassing Putnam County, Baldwin County, and Hancock County
5 is among the most economically depressed areas in this state; and
- 6 WHEREAS, the negative economics of this region are partly due to the loss of over 5,000
7 state jobs in the past three years; and
- 8 WHEREAS, the impending closure of Georgia Power's Plant Branch will only add to the
9 occupational and tax loss to this region; and
- 10 WHEREAS, the citizens of this region strive to find some new economic engine for this
11 region as well as for the State of Georgia; and
- 12 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has over 30,000 acres of unused land in the region; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the manmade treasures that are located in Putnam County, Eatonton, Rock
14 Eagle, and Little Rock Eagle have been recognized by the U.S. Department of Historic Sites;
15 and
- 16 WHEREAS, Georgia and the United States recognize this treasure built by the original
17 residents of Georgia as Native American tribal land and tribal territory; and
- 18 WHEREAS, all studies show the economy of this region and the State of Georgia would
19 benefit from the use of Native American tribal grounds in this region or the use of the 30,000
20 acres of state owned land in this region; and

21 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia could benefit immediately by an influx of \$250 million a
22 year for a minimum of ten years beginning immediately if the Governor of Georgia signed
23 a compact with a Native American tribe to open a casino in the economic engine of these
24 counties; and

25 WHEREAS, this \$250 million would be in addition to any property tax, state tax, and
26 revenue that a casino would generate; and

27 WHEREAS, this compact between the Governor of Georgia and a Native American tribe
28 would not need to be approved by a constitutional amendment.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body support the request that the Governor of Georgia consider a
31 compact with a Native American tribe to open a casino in the Putnam, Baldwin, and Hancock
32 counties region so the State of Georgia could receive \$250 million a year for ten years, and
33 that if the Governor of Georgia signed such a compact, this body would establish a gaming
34 commission to regulate the gaming industry in Georgia.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Governor of Georgia
37 and the State Lottery Commissions.