

Senate Resolution 841

By: Senators Hill of the 32nd, Chance of the 16th and Staton of the 18th

### A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing cultural, economic, and educational cooperation with the United Kingdom of  
2 Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, there is a special bond of friendship between the citizens of Georgia and the  
4 United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the people of Georgia welcome  
5 all opportunities to grow a deeper relationship at all levels, including cultural, academic,  
6 business, and all others; and

7 WHEREAS, Georgia is proud to serve as home to the British Consulate General for the  
8 Southeast; and

9 WHEREAS, Jeremy Pilmore-Bedford serves in Atlanta as Her Majesty's Consul General;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Georgia is proud to be the home of approximately 325 UK facilities operating  
12 in Georgia, of which 55 (11 percent) are manufacturing locations; these UK-affiliated  
13 facilities employ more than 18,000 Georgians; and

14 WHEREAS, the state of Georgia has had continuous representation in the United Kingdom  
15 since 2002 and Mr. Mike Harling has led the state's economic development efforts in this  
16 market since the position was established; and

17 WHEREAS, the British-American Business Group of Atlanta (BABG) is one of the largest  
18 transatlantic business networks; with nearly 400 members, this organization is dedicated to  
19 promoting connections, trade, and investments by supporting economic growth between the  
20 southeastern United States and the United Kingdom; Mr. Greg Cinnamon serves as president;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Georgia has three official Sister-City agreements with the United Kingdom:  
23 Norcross - Hastings, LaGrange - Craigavon, and Atlanta - Newcastle upon Tyne; and

24 WHEREAS, the University System of Georgia offers 43 study abroad programs to the United  
25 Kingdom, including business, religious studies, art history, public policy, theatre, and film;  
26 and

27 WHEREAS, the United Kingdom is a top export destination for Georgia with exports  
28 totaling over \$1.132 billion, including gas turbines, civilian aircraft and parts, woodpulp, fuel  
29 wood, paper, paperboard, tractors, and motor vehicles; and

30 WHEREAS, Georgia's imports from the United Kingdom totaled \$1.9 billion from the  
31 United Kingdom with top imports including aircraft parts, pharmaceutical products, motor  
32 vehicles, mineral oils, x-ray equipment, and electrical machinery; and

33 WHEREAS, Delta Air Lines offers daily direct flights from Atlanta to London, providing  
34 the opportunity for business and cultural relationships to grow; and

35 WHEREAS, the Georgia Ports Authority (GPA) in Savannah has an established relationship  
36 with four British ports; GPA offers two weekly shipping services to Felixstowe and  
37 Thamesport and one weekly service to Tilbury and Southampton; and

38 WHEREAS, from May 19-22, 2014, Georgia will host the 2014 BABC Transatlantic  
39 Conference with representatives from the 23 British American Business Council chapters in  
40 the United States and United Kingdom convening in Atlanta for the annual transatlantic  
41 conference; and

42 WHEREAS, United States and United Kingdom military relations are historically strong with  
43 the British Royal Navy working with the United States Navy at Kings Bay Naval Base; and

44 WHEREAS, the United Kingdom is hosting the NATO Conference September 4-5, 2014,  
45 and there have been British troops based in Afghanistan since the United States-led liberation  
46 there in 2001 with approximately 6,000 still in the country fighting alongside United States  
47 military personnel, including many from the Georgia National Guard; and

48 WHEREAS, February 9, 2014, is the 50th Anniversary of the Beatles USA and the Beatles  
49 played to a capacity crowd at Atlanta Stadium on August 18, 1965, which Beatles manager

50 Brian Epstein said of the Atlanta Stadium sound system was "excellent and without question  
51 proved the most effective of all during our U.S. tour in 1965."

52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
53 hereby recognize the special friendship between Georgia and the United Kingdom of Great  
54 Britain and Northern Ireland and express our appreciation to Consul General Jeremy  
55 Pilmore-Bedford for his tireless efforts to promote peace and grow business, cultural, and  
56 educational ties between our two nations.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body hereby encourages further cultural,  
58 educational, and business exchanges between citizens of Georgia and the United Kingdom  
59 and welcomes all opportunities to develop the special bond of friendship between Georgia  
60 and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

61 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
62 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Consul General Jeremy Pilmore-Bedford.