

House Resolution 1241

By: Representative Caldwell of the 20<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing cultural, economic, and educational cooperation with the United Kingdom of  
2 Great Britain and Northern Ireland and inviting the Consul General Jeremy Pilmore-Bedford  
3 of the United Kingdom to be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other  
4 purposes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body hereby encourages further cultural,  
60 educational, and business exchanges between citizens of Georgia and the United Kingdom,  
61 invites the Consul General Jeremy Pilmore-Bedford of the United Kingdom to be recognized  
62 by the House of Representatives at a date and time designated by the Speaker of the House,  
63 and welcomes all opportunities to develop the special bond of friendship between Georgia  
64 and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
66 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Consul General Jeremy  
67 Pilmore-Bedford.