

Senate Resolution 1041

By: Senators Ramsey, Sr. of the 43rd and Jeffares of the 17th

### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 16, 2014, as the 160th anniversary of the founding of Conyers,  
2 Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the City of Conyers was established in 1854; and

4 WHEREAS, Conyers was home to the prosperous mill community known as Milstead, and  
5 the mill employed some 700 workers and provided exceptional amenities to its workers,  
6 including housing, churches, a public school, post office, hotel, railroad, company store, drug  
7 store, and recreational facilities that featured a golf course and swimming pool; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1960, Callaway Mills closed the Milstead operation; however, the churches  
9 and bungalow-type houses of the village still stand today and are home to many residents  
10 who continue to enjoy this unique and historic area of Conyers; and

11 WHEREAS, like many Georgia towns, Conyers takes pride in its "sidewalk churches"; along  
12 Main Street today, Presbyterian and Methodist churches stand side-by-side; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1878, First United Methodist began a legacy of joint action in a joint revival  
14 with its Presbyterian neighbors, and the revival resulted in more than 100 new members and  
15 the closing of nine saloons in Conyers; these churches continue to have joint services  
16 throughout the year; and

17 WHEREAS, several citizens of Rockdale County joined communities across the nation in  
18 helping the Trappists finish The Monastery of The Holy Spirit, which stands today southeast  
19 of Conyers off Georgia Highway 212; and

20 WHEREAS, the City of Conyers is known for its progressive movements; native sons and  
21 daughters garnered national recognition in following Sally Fannie Gleaton, a leading  
22 suffragette during the progressive period following Reconstruction; and

23 WHEREAS, additionally, progressives Roland Reagan and Harry Downs made the school  
24 system a model for the entire state in peaceful integration and academic excellence; and

25 WHEREAS, in the summer of 1996, more than 600,000 tourists experienced the pleasures  
26 of the community during the Centennial Olympic Games by visiting the Conyers Welcome  
27 Center, which is maintained by the Rockdale Historical Society; and

28 WHEREAS, the Olympics put Conyers and Rockdale County not only on the map, but also  
29 in the minds of thousands who soon began relocating their homes, families, and businesses  
30 to the area; and

31 WHEREAS, Conyers has now grown to more than 15,000 residents and is a combination of  
32 small town and big city and of rural scenes and urban shopping; the population now reflects  
33 many nationalities, races, and religions; and

34 WHEREAS, most importantly, the community reflects an amazing legacy of progress,  
35 involvement, and society where all citizens have contributed and feel a sense of belonging.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
37 recognize February 16, 2014, as the 160th anniversary of the founding of Conyers, Georgia,  
38 and express their sincerest best wishes of continued success and progress.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
40 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the public and the press.