

House Resolution 1987

By: Representatives Waites of the 60<sup>th</sup> and Scott of the 76<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending the Georgia Aquarium; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Georgia Aquarium is an entertaining, intriguing, and educational experience  
3 for guests of all ages; while promoting a fun and enjoyable learning experience, the aquarium  
4 instills in its guests a new appreciation for the world's aquatic biodiversity; and
- 5 WHEREAS, it enhances Georgia's tourism offerings, provides local residents with a  
6 world-class entertainment attraction, and is an anchor for downtown Atlanta's revitalization  
7 efforts, being a benefit to both the city and this state; and
- 8 WHEREAS, to date, Georgia Aquarium has attracted more than 11 million visitors and  
9 employs more than 400 employees and a dedicated core of more than 2,000 volunteers; and
- 10 WHEREAS, it utilizes innovative technologies as well as interactive and interdisciplinary  
11 techniques to ensure that students have an enjoyable academic experience; and
- 12 WHEREAS, in 2003, Home Depot co-founder Bernie Marcus, announced a \$250 million gift  
13 to the City of Atlanta, and the Georgia Aquarium was able to open debt-free; and
- 14 WHEREAS, one of the Georgia Aquarium's major goals is to be the leading facility for  
15 aquatic animal conservation and research; and
- 16 WHEREAS, its state-of-the-art animal health facility, the Correll Center for Aquatic Animal  
17 Health, is 10,000 square feet and is the only integration of an aquarium and a veterinarian  
18 teaching hospital; and

19 WHEREAS, by combining field research with the study of on-site animals in a controlled  
20 environment, the aquarium is contributing to the advancement of human knowledge in the  
21 area of animal science; and

22 WHEREAS, several projects are funded by the Georgia Aquarium, including the 4R  
23 Program, which supports and funds Georgia Aquarium efforts in the areas of rescue,  
24 rehabilitation, research, and responsibility, and the Seafood Savvy Program, which is  
25 designed to empower seafood consumers and businesses to make informed choices for  
26 healthy oceans; and

27 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
28 remarkable organization be appropriately recognized.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
30 the members of this body recognize and commend the Georgia Aquarium for its countless  
31 contributions to the State of Georgia.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
33 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Aquarium.