

House Resolution 237

By: Representative Bentley of the 139<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the inaugural communities of the Georgia PlanFirst program and celebrating  
2 the 25th anniversary of the implementation of the Georgia Planning Act; and for other  
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the year 2015 marks the 25th anniversary of the implementation of the Georgia  
5 Planning Act, which established that the State of Georgia maintains an essential public  
6 interest in protecting and preserving natural resources, the environment, and the vital areas  
7 of this state and which serves these interests through coordinated and comprehensive  
8 planning by all local governments; and

9 WHEREAS, local governments throughout this state have undertaken the tasks necessary to  
10 implement comprehensive plans which protect and enhance the quality of life within their  
11 respective communities; and

12 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia recognizes the important role cities and counties play in  
13 fostering this state's image as an attractive place to invest, conduct business, and raise a  
14 family; moreover, planning creates an environment of predictability for economic  
15 development, property owners, and the general public; and

16 WHEREAS, it is the wish of the House of Representatives of the State of Georgia to  
17 recognize and honor those communities that have dedicated their purposeful work to  
18 establishing a vision for their future growth and development and have taken the steps  
19 necessary to set a path needed to achieve this vision; and

20 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs acknowledges the importance  
21 of coordinated and comprehensive planning to this state; therefore, the PlanFirst program has  
22 been created to recognize those communities in Georgia that have shown an exemplary  
23 history of comprehensive plan development and implementation; and

24 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives is justly proud to honor Athens-Clarke County,  
25 the Town of Braselton, Coweta County, the City of Gainesville, Johnson County, Jones  
26 County, the City of Madison, the City of Suwanee, the City of Vienna, and the City of  
27 Woodstock for their outstanding and commendable community planning efforts and  
28 accomplishments which hereby designate them as the inaugural Georgia PlanFirst  
29 communities; and

30 WHEREAS, it is the sense of the House of Representatives that those local governments that  
31 enhance the well-being and vitality of their communities and have shown a long and  
32 sustained commitment to excellence in planning and plan implementation certainly have  
33 earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great state.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
35 the members of this body commend Athens-Clarke County, the Town of Braselton, Coweta  
36 County, the City of Gainesville, Johnson County, Jones County, the City of Madison, the  
37 City of Suwanee, the City of Vienna, and the City of Woodstock for their many community  
38 planning accomplishments in conjunction with the 25th anniversary of the Georgia Planning  
39 Act.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
41 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to  
42 Athens-Clarke County, the Town of Braselton, Coweta County, the City of Gainesville,  
43 Johnson County, Jones County, the City of Madison, the City of Suwanee, the City of  
44 Vienna, the City of Woodstock, and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.