

House Resolution 347

By: Representatives Gravley of the 67th, Lumsden of the 12th, Cooke of the 18th, Atwood of the 179th, Waites of the 60th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA) for its
2 contributions to Georgia's law enforcement personnel and canine officers; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA) was formed in
5 1977, and since its inception, NAPWDA Master Trainers have certified more than 39,000
6 working teams worldwide; and

7 WHEREAS, NAPWDA has stringent requirements for individuals wishing to become
8 Trainers or Master Trainers with the organization; and

9 WHEREAS, NAPWDA and USPCA are the only two national organizations recognized in
10 writing by the Department of Justice and the International Association of Chiefs of Police;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, all explosive detection canine teams working at foreign embassies must certify
13 to NAPWDA standards; and

14 WHEREAS, the National Explosive Detection Canine Advisory Board has chosen the
15 NAPWDA standard as its national certification for explosive detection canine teams; and

16 WHEREAS, NAPWDA first started in Georgia on February 19, 1991, when Pete Onni of the
17 Upson County Sheriffs Office certified; the next individual to certify was Deputy Robbie
18 Bishop of the Cherokee County Sheriffs Office; and

19 WHEREAS, since its start in 1991, NAPWDA Georgia has certified more than 4,000
20 Georgia working dog teams; and

21 WHEREAS, currently, the NAPWDA Georgia State workshop is one of the largest
22 workshops in the nation, pulling in more than 100 teams from Georgia and the surrounding
23 states and even teams from Brazil; and

24 WHEREAS, in June, 2015, NAPWDA Georgia will host the National Workshop; this is the
25 first time it has ever been held in this state; and

26 WHEREAS, Georgia currently has two certified Master Trainers, J.R. Huff and Wayne
27 Fullard, and two certified Trainers, Tim Turner and David Matson, and several other
28 individuals are currently working toward Trainer status; it takes a minimum of three years
29 to make Trainer and a minimum of six to make Master Trainer; and

30 WHEREAS, NAPWDA Georgia also maintains a Facebook page, NAPWDAGA, which is
31 open to the public and is used to inform officers of current events and to provide the public
32 with canine information.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
34 the members of this body commend the North American Police Work Dog Association
35 (NAPWDA) for its contributions to Georgia's law enforcement personnel and canine officers.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
37 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
38 North American Police Work Dog Association.