

Senate Resolution 414

By: Senators Orrock of the 36th, Miller of the 49th, Henson of the 41st, Tate of the 38th, Butler of the 55th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 25, 2015, as Greek Independence Day and congratulating Georgios
2 Panagiotidis upon being named Consul of the Greek Government in Atlanta; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Greek Independence Day is a national holiday celebrated annually in Greece
5 on March 25, and the date commemorates the start of the War of Greek Independence in
6 1821, a war that led to the liberation of Crete and Greece from Turkish rule and ended more
7 than 350 years of oppression by the Ottoman Empire; and

8 WHEREAS, the governments and people of Greece and the United States are at the forefront
9 of efforts to advance freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and human rights, and those
10 efforts and similar ideals have forged a close bond between the people of Greece and the
11 United States; and

12 WHEREAS, through two World Wars, the Korean Conflict, and a Cold War, Greece and the
13 United States have stood side-by-side as allies in the fight for democracy; and

14 WHEREAS, the cultures and political philosophies of Greece and the United States are
15 heavily influenced by one another, leading to a cross-cultural understanding between the two
16 countries and a history of cooperation on many important political, civic, and economic
17 issues affecting the lives of both countries' citizens; and

18 WHEREAS, the American form of government owes much to the small group of Greek
19 city-states that pioneered democracy thousands of years ago, and just as Hellenic principles
20 guided the Founding Fathers, Greek antiquity has inspired generations of Americans, from
21 writers and activists to architects and inventors; and

22 WHEREAS, the Greek people who immigrated to the United States and are now counted as
23 valuable Greek-American members of this nation have enriched this country through their
24 contributions as leaders of culture, community, business, and government; and

25 WHEREAS, the Consul of the Greek Government in Atlanta holds responsibilities over the
26 states of Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky, and Georgios Panagiotidis was
27 recently appointed to this position after serving for five years with the Greek Embassy in
28 Brasilia, Brazil; and

29 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper to honor the deep connections between the
30 United States and Greece and to celebrate the democratic ideals at the heart of the shared
31 history of these two nations on Greek Independence Day.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 recognize March 25, 2015, as Greek Independence Day and congratulate Georgios
34 Panagiotidis upon being named Consul of the Greek Government in Atlanta.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Georgios
37 Panagiotidis.