

House Resolution 1296

By: Representative Parrish of the 158th

A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing cultural, economic, and educational cooperation with Hungary and recognizing
2 February 6, 2016, as Hungary Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, there is a bond of friendship between the citizens of Georgia and Hungary, and
4 the people of Georgia welcome opportunities to grow our already deep relationship at all
5 levels, including cultural, academic, business, and scientific; and

6 WHEREAS, this year, 2016, marks the especially important 60th anniversary of the
7 Hungarian Freedom Fighters' heroic and tragic efforts to overthrow the Communist regime
8 in Hungary so that Hungary might establish a democratic form of government and its people
9 become free from oppression; and

10 WHEREAS, more than 25 years ago, on May 29, 1989, the Hungarian government in
11 Budapest ordered the dismantling of the 150 mile long fence along the Austrian border,
12 resulting in the first visible crack in the Iron Curtain; and

13 WHEREAS, on September 11, 1989, Hungary formally opened its borders, thereby igniting
14 free emigration by citizens from behind the Iron Curtain to countries of Western
15 democracies; and

16 WHEREAS, weeks after the Austrian border of Hungary was opened, the Berlin Wall fell,
17 the Velvet Revolution took place in Prague, the people of Romania deposed a brutal dictator
18 during a bloody revolution, and the Soviet Union fell; and

19 WHEREAS, most nations of the former Soviet Bloc chose a democratic way of life, making
20 it possible for Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Poland to join NATO ten years later; and

21 WHEREAS, today Hungary and most of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe are
22 faithful allies of the United States and proud members of the European Union; and

23 WHEREAS, this resolution will cement the already close and friendly connections between
24 the State of Georgia and Hungary and will further promote business and cultural ties between
25 our state and Hungary.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES the
27 members of this body hereby recognize the special friendship between the State of Georgia
28 and Hungary and recognize February 6, 2016, as Hungary Day at the state capitol.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that appreciation is expressed to Her Excellency
30 Ambassador Dr. Réka Szemerkényi for her efforts to promote peace and grow commercial,
31 cultural, educational, and scientific ties between our two nations.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Her
34 Excellency Ambassador Dr. Réka Szemerkényi.