

## House Resolution 1357

By: Representatives LaRiccia of the 169<sup>th</sup>, Pirkle of the 155<sup>th</sup>, Corbett of the 174<sup>th</sup>, Carter of the 175<sup>th</sup>, Shaw of the 176<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Ms. JoAnne Lewis on the occasion of her retirement; and for  
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Ms. JoAnne Lewis, with more than 30 years of economic development  
4 experience with local and state government, has long been recognized by the citizens of this  
5 state for the vital role she has played in leadership and her deep personal commitment to the  
6 welfare of the citizens of Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, Ms. Lewis has served as Main Street Director, Director of Tourism, and  
8 Community Service Director for the City of Douglas, Georgia; as state-wide Tourism  
9 Product Development Manager for the Georgia Department of Economic Development; and  
10 in 2004, she joined the Douglas-Coffee County Chamber and Economic Development  
11 Authority as Executive Director, a position from which she will retire in February, 2016; and

12 WHEREAS, Ms. Lewis has found success in drawing new investment and jobs to rural south  
13 Georgia, which has been driven by the availability of infrastructure and facility inventory as  
14 the foundation of recruitment efforts; and

15 WHEREAS, as a respected economic development professional, Ms. Lewis has gained  
16 support from regional and state project managers, brokers, and consultants, serving as the  
17 Chairman of the Georgia Economic Developers Association in 2013 and as Director on the  
18 Board of Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives; and

19 WHEREAS, she received the Al Burress Lifetime Achievement Award for the State of  
20 Georgia, the Regional Partnership Award from East Central Technical College, and was  
21 recognized in 2007 as the national recipient for the Economic Development Leadership  
22 Award by the National Rural Economic Developers Association; and

23 WHEREAS, Ms. Lewis's personal passion has been rehabilitation for those who suffer from  
24 addiction issues, investing her personal time and money to open Still Waters, a Christian  
25 Women's Outreach Center in Douglas, Georgia, in 2014; and

26 WHEREAS, her time, talent, and tireless volunteerism amplify success at work and in life.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
28 the members of this body recognize and commend Ms. JoAnne Lewis for her dedicated  
29 service to her community and state.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
31 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Ms.  
32 JoAnne Lewis.