

House Resolution 1873

By: Representatives Powell of the 32nd, Meadows of the 5th, Jasperse of the 11th, Ballinger of the 23rd, Hightower of the 68th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring GeorgiaCarry.Org, Georgia's eminent Second Amendment grassroots organization,
2 and its members, Board of Directors, and officers for their outstanding efforts and
3 contributions to the protection and expansion of the Second Amendment in Georgia; and for
4 other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, Dean Mallis, Ed Stone, James Camp, John Monroe, Matt Knighten, and Mike
6 Menkus realized they shared the common goal of being able to exercise their Second
7 Amendment rights as provided for in the United States and Georgia Constitutions and
8 founded GeorgiaCarry.Org; and

9 WHEREAS, GeorgiaCarry.Org was formed in 2006 and became a 501(4) nonprofit
10 organization in 2007 as a result of the aforementioned men meeting and deciding to change
11 the laws pertaining to the Second Amendment in Georgia; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia was the 39th most restrictive state in the union in allowing its
13 law-abiding citizens to exercise their Second Amendment rights of keeping and bearing
14 arms; and

15 WHEREAS, Georgia had more places off limits, which prohibited law-abiding citizens from
16 defending themselves from harm; and

17 WHEREAS, Georgia's firearm laws were still operating under the Public Gathering Jim
18 Crow laws and had been since 1870; and

19 WHEREAS, GeorgiaCarry.Org set out to hold state and local municipalities responsible for
20 abiding by state laws through litigation; and

21 WHEREAS, in 2007, GeorgiaCarry.Org made its presence known to the Georgia General
22 Assembly by lobbying for and against firearms legislation brought forth by other
23 organizations; and

24 WHEREAS, GeorgiaCarry.Org's testimony was very well received due to the knowledge of
25 the gun laws in Georgia as compared to other states and the demeanor of the leadership of
26 the organization; and

27 WHEREAS, it met with pro-Second Amendment Representatives and Senators and
28 determined and followed a systematic approach to dismantling the laws that infringe on the
29 Second Amendment; and

30 WHEREAS, in 2008, following the guidelines suggested by pro-Second Amendment
31 Representatives and Senators, GeorgiaCarry.Org lobbied for HB 89 and was successful in
32 passing the first pro-Second Amendment omnibus gun bill in Georgia's history; and

33 WHEREAS, in 2010, GeorgiaCarry.Org lobbied for SB 308 and was successful in passing
34 the bill that repealed the public gathering law, replacing the vague Jim Crow language with
35 a list of places that are off limits; and

36 WHEREAS, in 2014, GeorgiaCarry.Org lobbied for HB 60 and was successful in passing the
37 bill that became known worldwide as the "Guns Everywhere Bill," the largest omnibus gun
38 bill in the history of Georgia; and

39 WHEREAS, in 2015, GeorgiaCarry.Org lobbied for and was successful in passing HB 492,
40 an omnibus bill that redefined Zero Tolerance in public schools and clarified other portions
41 of firearms statutes; and

42 WHEREAS, in 2016, GeorgiaCarry.Org lobbied for and was successful in passing HB 859,
43 the Campus Carry Act, which allowed for concealed firearms on Georgia campuses; and

44 WHEREAS, now in its 10th year, GeorgiaCarry.Org has become one of the most outstanding
45 organizations in Georgia and has gained the respect of the General Assembly by respecting
46 its members and by being knowledgeable on gun issues; and

47 WHEREAS, GeorgiaCarry.Org should be used as the model for organizations that wish to
48 organize and participate in state government policy making.

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
50 the members of this body honor GeorgiaCarry.Org and its members, Board of Directors, and
51 officers for their outstanding efforts and contributions to the protection and expansion of the
52 Second Amendment in Georgia.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
54 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to
55 GeorgiaCarry.Org and its members, Board of Directors, and officers.