

House Resolution 470

By: Representatives Thomas of the 56th, Scott of the 76th, Thomas of the 39th, Jones of the 53rd, and Gilliard of the 162nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 6, 2017, as Ghana's Independence Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Ghana community has contributed positively to the economic, social, and
4 political well-being of the State of Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia seeks to build positive relationships with the African
6 countries and people of Africa; and

7 WHEREAS, it is in the economic interest of this state to promote and strengthen mutually
8 beneficial ties with Ghana; and

9 WHEREAS, members of the Ghanaian community have started to make a positive impact
10 in the lives of Georgia's residents by organizing international trade conferences, health fairs,
11 legal forums, and International Exchange programs; and

12 WHEREAS, members of the Ghana community continue to encourage positive community
13 involvement by sharing their rich cultural heritage with the residents of Georgia.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
15 the members of this body recognize March 6, 2017, as Ghana's Independence Day at the state
16 capitol in honor of the many cultural, political, economic, and social ties between Georgia
17 and Ghana and urge the Department of Economic Development, to the extent authorized by
18 law and subject to available funds, to promote trade relations between the State of Georgia
19 and Ghana; work in collaboration with the Ghana Council of Georgia in order to successfully
20 execute the underlying objectives in such trade relations; promote, encourage, and facilitate
21 the collaboration in agriculture, technology, health care, and youth development; promote
22 the ports of Savannah and Tema as the main hubs for cargo shipment of goods between
23 Africa and the United States; promote Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport and Accra

24 International Airport as the main center for air passenger and cargo services between Africa
25 and the United States; encourage and support the establishment of the Institute of Ethics
26 Leadership to provide human resources and related training in cooperation with the
27 University System of Georgia for all Ghana; encourage and support the establishment of the
28 African Institute of Science and Technology in collaboration with the Ghana Council of
29 Georgia and partnership with Georgia Institute of Technology; encourage and support the
30 launching of an annual Open for Business forum and related networking, job creation, and
31 investment opportunities in the State of Georgia and Africa; and promote economic
32 development for Ghana and the State of Georgia and organize economic conferences and
33 expositions in Georgia.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
35 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
36 public and the press.