

Senate Resolution 354

By: Senator James of the 35th

#### 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 SENATE that the members of this body  
15 recognize March 6, 2017, as Ghana's Independence Day at the state capitol in honor of the  
16 many cultural, political, economic, and social ties between Georgia and Ghana and urge the  
17 Department of Economic Development, to the extent authorized by law and subject to  
18 available funds, to promote trade relations between the State of Georgia and Ghana; work  
19 in collaboration with the Ghana Council of Georgia in order to successfully execute the  
20 underlying objectives in such trade relations; promote, encourage, and facilitate the  
21 collaboration in agriculture, technology, health care, and youth development; promote the  
22 ports of Savannah and Tema as the main hubs for cargo shipment of goods between Africa  
23 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 Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
35 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the  
36 press.