

House Resolution 904

By: Representatives Marin of the 96th, Burns of the 159th, Trammell of the 132nd, Stephens of the 164th, Beverly of the 143rd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and congratulating the Republic of Korea on being the host of the 2018 XXIII
2 Winter Olympic Games and the XII Winter Paralympic Games; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the XXIII Winter Olympic Games will be held for 17 days from February 9
4 to 25, 2018, and the XII Winter Paralympic Games will be from March 9 to 18, 2018, in
5 PyeongChang, the Republic of Korea; and

6 WHEREAS, this esteemed body was informed of this upcoming event by the Honorable
7 Pedro Marin, District 96, House Representative; and

8 WHEREAS, PyeongChang was selected as the host city of the 2018 Winter Olympic Games
9 after receiving a majority vote at the 123rd International Olympic Committee Session held
10 on July 6, 2011, after three consecutive bids; and

11 WHEREAS, the world's best athletes will compete on Asia's center stage to launch new
12 horizons of culture, environment, geography, and economy in winter sports and create a
13 sustainable legacy for the Republic of Korea; and

14 WHEREAS, the Winter Olympic Games will be held in Korea for the first time in 30 years
15 after the Seoul Olympic Games in 1988. PyeongChang will be the stage for the Opening and
16 Closing Ceremonies and most snow sports. Alpine speed events will take place in
17 Jeongseon, and all ice sports will be competed in the coastal City of Gangneung; and

18 WHEREAS, the emblem symbolizes a world open to everyone. It combines the image of
19 ice and snow, winter sports athletes, and people from across the world coming together in
20 PyeongChang, where heaven meets earth; and

21 WHEREAS, Soohorang, the mascot of the Winter Olympic Games PyeongChang 2018, took
22 its motif from the white tiger, which has been long considered Korea's guardian animal.

23 "Sooho," meaning "protection" in Korean, symbolizes protection offered to the athletes,
24 spectators, and other participants in the 2018 Games; and

25 WHEREAS, the motto "Passion. Connected." refers to a world in which everyone is
26 connected with shared passion for winter sports, a world open to any generation anywhere,
27 anytime, to open new horizons in the continued growth of winter sports; and

28 WHEREAS, athletes taking part in the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018 will
29 compete in 102 events in 15 sport disciplines. The Games will be the first ever Winter
30 Olympic Games with more than 100 gold medals. In particular, six new events including
31 men's and women's Snowboard Big Air, men's and women's Speed Skating Mass Start,
32 Curling Mixed Doubles, and the Alpine Skiing Team Event will be added to the program.
33 PyeongChang 2018 will also be the stage for the greatest number of women's and mixed
34 events in the history of the Winter Olympic Games; and

35 WHEREAS, the 2018 United States Olympic Team is expected to include approximately 240
36 athletes, to feature a blend of veteran and new talent, and to field athletes in all 15 sport
37 disciplines; and

38 WHEREAS, Georgia's own Meyers Taylor, from Douglasville, Georgia, has overcome
39 several injuries since the Sochi Olympics and is seeking her third Bobsled Olympic medal
40 in PyeongChang; and

41 WHEREAS, the 2018 United States Paralympic Team will participate in the events of Alpine
42 Skiing, Nordic Skiing, Sled Hockey, Snowboarding, and Wheelchair Curling in the 2018
43 PyeongChang Winter Paralympic Games; and

44 WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta was the venue for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games and
45 wishes success to the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games as a city
46 that has already experienced the noble Olympic spirit; and

47 WHEREAS, all Georgians, more than 150,000 Korean Americans, and more than 125
48 Korean companies that provide at least 15,000 jobs in the State of Georgia will welcome a
49 winter sports celebration for world peace and unity; and

50 WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the following resolution, by
51 consensus: "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic Ideal," in

52 support of the Olympic Truce aiming to ensure the safe passage and participation of athletes
53 and spectators at the 2018 Winter Olympic Games; and

54 WHEREAS, One Korea USA is a constitutional organization and a 501(c)(3) nonprofit
55 organization that has focused on developing communication, healing, and unity among
56 Koreans living overseas since 2014. One Korea USA networks with Korean communities
57 around the world with the purpose of developing a global peace-centered cultural
58 organization. One Korea USA executes cultural exchanges, promotes Korean culture to the
59 global community, and prepares the community with special education needed before the
60 unification of North Korea and South Korea; and

61 WHEREAS, the Federation of Korean Associations in the SE USA (FKASEUSA) represents
62 more than 200,000 Korean Americans in North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee,
63 Alabama, and Georgia. The federation, established in 1981, consists of 26 Korean American
64 Associations as members; and

65 WHEREAS, the Korea National Unification Council – Atlanta Chapter (NUACAATL)
66 advises by request and makes proposals to the President of the Republic of Korea regarding
67 policy development and implementation for a democratic and peaceful inter Korean
68 unification and has 96 council members spread across Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, North
69 Carolina, and South Carolina.

70 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
71 the members of this body recognize and congratulate the Republic of Korea on being the host
72 of the 2018 XXIII Winter Olympic Games and the XII Winter Paralympic Games and wish
73 them success with the expectation that these events will contribute to peace and stability on
74 the Korean Peninsula.

75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
76 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
77 volunteers, members, staff, and organizations of One Korea USA, the Federation of Korean
78 Associations in the SE USA, and the Korea National Unification Council – Atlanta Chapter.