

Senate Resolution 648

By: Senators Brass of the 28th and McKoon of the 29th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing September 6 of each year as Marquis de LaFayette Day; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, the Marquis de LaFayette,
3 volunteered and used his personal fortune to aid America in the struggle for independence
4 and was commissioned a Major General in the Continental Army on General George
5 Washington's staff; and

6 WHEREAS, the Continental Congress appropriated awards and honors for LaFayette's
7 services to the American people, including dual citizenship and the commission of a portrait
8 that hangs in the chamber of the United States House of Representatives; and

9 WHEREAS, LaFayette's strong belief in freedom led him to be an early advocate for the
10 abolition of slavery in the United States and the rest of the Americas; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1824-1825, at the invitation of the President of the United States, James
12 Monroe, and as the guest of the United States Congress, he toured the country and addressed
13 a joint session of Congress; and

14 WHEREAS, beginning April 19, 1825, he was honored at banquets across the State of
15 Georgia as a guest of Governor George M. Troup, for whom Troup County is named; and

16 WHEREAS, his travels included passage through West Georgia which the United States had
17 newly acquired for the State of Georgia; and

18 WHEREAS, Colonel Julius Caesar Alford suggested the name LaGrange for the county seat
19 of Troup County as an honor to the Marquis, whose home in France was called the Chateau
20 de LaGrange-Bleneau-en-Brie; and

21 WHEREAS, the Marquis de LaFayette was born in Lepuy-en-Valey, France, whose statue
22 of the Marquis was copied and erected in the town square of LaGrange, Georgia, in
23 celebration of the 200th anniversary of the United States of America; and

24 WHEREAS, the Marquis was born on September 6, 1757, and the LaGrange Chapter,
25 Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution chose to honor his birthday with a
26 banquet in his memory, in conjunction with the LaGrange Chapter of the Daughters of the
27 American Revolution; and

28 WHEREAS, on September 6, 2007, then Governor of Georgia, the Honorable Sonny Perdue,
29 proclaimed Marquis de LaFayette Day in Georgia as part of numerous statewide celebrations
30 of the occasion.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
32 recognize September 6 of each year as Marquis de LaFayette Day in the State of Georgia.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
34 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
35 press.