

Senate Resolution 763

By: Senators Millar of the 40th, Parent of the 42nd, Henson of the 41st and Butler of the 55th

A RESOLUTION

1 Celebrating the 80th anniversary of the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce and recognizing all
2 that they do in order to support, attract, and sustain business and economic development
3 within DeKalb County and metro Atlanta; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, in 1938, the DeKalb Chamber, known as the DeKalb County Chamber of
5 Agriculture and Commerce, was established in order to support local dairy farms; and

6 WHEREAS, for 80 years, the DeKalb Chamber, its board of directors, members, community
7 partners, staff, and key stakeholders have worked collectively in order to create a
8 pro-business environment within DeKalb County; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1955, the county leaders hired their first professional manager, who served
10 as the face of local leadership for the chamber, created a unified voice for businesses, and
11 worked to attract fresh commerce to DeKalb County; and

12 WHEREAS, the DeKalb Chamber spearheaded educational efforts centered around the need
13 for a hospital, leading to the opening of DeKalb Medical Center on May 1, 1961; and

14 WHEREAS, the DeKalb Chamber played an integral role in DeKalb College's transition into
15 Georgia Perimeter College and established EduKalb in 2010, which is an independent
16 organization led by concerned community and business leaders to train school board
17 candidates, drive community awareness, and ultimately endorse quality candidates; and

18 WHEREAS, the DeKalb Chamber appointed Katerina Taylor to serve as the chamber's first
19 female president and CEO in 2014, leading the way for a more progressive and relevant
20 organization; and

21 WHEREAS, in 2017, the DeKalb Chamber gathered support from its members in order to
22 inform the community on the importance of the DeKalb County SPLOST, which passed with

23 overwhelming support from voters and which will help generate \$636 million over a period
24 of six years to fund infrastructure, public safety, and other needs; and

25 WHEREAS, in 2018, the DeKalb Chamber named Brenda Reid, the Media and Community
26 Relations Manager at Publix Super Markets, as the chair of the board of directors, and she
27 will provide leadership and guidance and further advance the chamber's mission; and

28 WHEREAS, the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Day at the state capitol
29 on February 20, 2018, in the historic halls of the Georgia State Capitol so that all DeKalb
30 Chamber board members, staff, and partners may have the opportunity to meet their local
31 representatives.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
33 celebrate the 80th anniversary of the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce and recognize all that
34 they do in order to support, attract, and sustain business and economic development within
35 DeKalb County and metro Atlanta.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
37 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the DeKalb
38 Chamber of Commerce.