

Senate Resolution 892

By: Senators Miller of the 49th, Ginn of the 47th, Wilkinson of the 50th, Gooch of the 51st, Cowsert of the 46th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the long and steady friendship between Georgia and Japan shown by the 45th
2 Anniversary of the Office of the State of Georgia in Japan; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Consulate General of Japan in the Southeast has strengthened the cultural,
4 political, and economic ties between Japan and Georgia and has worked to help and support
5 Japanese citizens and companies in the Southeast; and

6 WHEREAS, Georgia has become a model for welcoming Japanese companies to the
7 Southeast, and the region has grown to become an indispensable part of the Japanese-United
8 States relationship; and

9 WHEREAS, current trade between Japan and Georgia is nearly \$6 billion in import and
10 export trade; and

11 WHEREAS, there are 570 Japanese company affiliated offices now located in Georgia,
12 employing more than 30,000 people; and

13 WHEREAS, the Consulate General created Japan Fest in 1986 and helped grow it into the
14 largest Japanese cultural festival in the Southeast; and

15 WHEREAS, Americus, Atlanta, Augusta, Columbus, Dublin, Elberton, Gainesville,
16 LaGrange, Macon, and Rome have sister city relationships with cities in Japan, making
17 Georgia the state with the highest number of Japanese sister cities in the Southeast, and
18 Georgia also has a sister-state relationship with Kagoshima Prefecture; and

19 WHEREAS, nearly 1,000 Georgia public school students are studying the Japanese language,
20 eight Georgia institutes of higher education have Japanese language programs, and, since
21 1987, 344 Georgians have participated in Japan's Japanese Exchange and Teaching (JET)
22 program; and

23 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding friendship of these
24 extraordinary allies be appropriately recognized.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
26 recognize the 45th Anniversary of the Office of the State of Georgia in Japan and commend
27 the Consulate General's efforts to strengthen cultural, political, and economic ties between
28 Japan and Georgia.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
30 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Consulate
31 General of Japan in the Southeast.