

Senate Resolution 1115

By: Senator Wilkinson of the 50th

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States, and in particular the Georgia Congressional
2 delegation, to support commonsense reform of the federal sugar support program; and for
3 other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, food manufacturing is one of the largest manufacturing sectors in the United
5 States; and

6 WHEREAS, companies that use sugar as an ingredient in their products include important
7 segments of the American economy, from frozen food and fruit and vegetable canning to
8 cereal, confectionery, bread, and bakery production; and

9 WHEREAS, United States Census data shows that approximately 600,000 jobs are found in
10 those segments of the food industry that use sugar in the products they make; and

11 WHEREAS, sugar is the most tightly controlled agricultural commodity in the United States
12 and was the only commodity not reformed by Congress in the 2014 Farm Bill; and

13 WHEREAS, no other commodity in the United States enjoys this type of supply control
14 dictated by the government; and

15 WHEREAS, United States manufacturers and consumers are forced to pay an average of 55
16 percent higher sugar prices than the rest of the world, making it harder for American
17 manufacturers to stay in the United States by prolonging a policy that drives up the cost of
18 a key ingredient in so many foods; and

19 WHEREAS, the United States sugar program forces manufacturers to pay twice as much for
20 sugar as the rest of the world, putting American businesses at a competitive disadvantage
21 when it comes to creating jobs; and

22 WHEREAS, the current sugar program forces American consumers and businesses,
23 including those in Georgia, to pay up to \$3 billion a year to subsidize very profitable United
24 States sugar producers and processors who benefit from abnormally high prices created by
25 the government program; and

26 WHEREAS, over the past 18 years, more than 120,000 American jobs have been lost in
27 sugar-using industries, in large part because of the sugar program; and

28 WHEREAS, these reforms should include the elimination of all direct and indirect subsidies
29 benefiting the production of export of sugar by any government.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
31 urge the Congress of the United States, and in particular the Georgia Congressional
32 delegation, to support commonsense reform of the federal sugar support program, and to
33 stand up for American workers and consumers by enacting bicameral, bipartisan,
34 commonsense reforms to the federal sugar support program.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
36 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the President of the
37 United States, the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, the
38 Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the
39 Georgia Congressional delegation.