

## House Resolution 110

By: Representatives Glanton of the 75<sup>th</sup>, Knight of the 130<sup>th</sup>, Park of the 101<sup>st</sup>, Petrea of the 166<sup>th</sup>, and Wilensky of the 79<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 45th anniversary of the Consulate-General of Japan in the Southeast; and  
2 for other purposes.

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

6 WHEREAS, a long and steady friendship has grown between Georgia and Japan, as shown  
7 by the establishment of the Office of the State of Georgia in Japan 46 years ago; and

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

11 WHEREAS, the Japanese community has thrived together with all the other communities to  
12 make Georgia greater; and

13 WHEREAS, current trade between Georgia and Japan is nearly \$6.3 billion in import and  
14 export trade; and

15 WHEREAS, there are nearly 650 Japan affiliated offices now located in Georgia, employing  
16 more than 35,000 people; and

17 WHEREAS, the 42nd Annual Joint Meeting of the Southeast U.S./Japan Association and the  
18 Japan-U.S. Southeast Association will be held in Savannah, Georgia, in October, 2019; and

19 WHEREAS, the Consulate-General was a founder of JapanFest Atlanta in 1986, and helped  
20 it grow into the largest Japanese cultural festival in the Southeast; and

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

25 WHEREAS, nearly 1,000 Georgia public school students are studying the Japanese language,  
26 eight Georgia institutes of higher education have Japanese language programs, and, since  
27 1987, 368 Georgians have participated in Japan's Japanese Exchange and Teaching (JET)  
28 program.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
30 the members of this body recognize the 45th anniversary of the Consulate-General of Japan  
31 in the Southeast and the long and steady friendship between this state and Japan and  
32 commend the efforts of the Consulate-General to strengthen cultural, educational, political,  
33 and economic ties between Georgia and Japan.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Consulate General of  
36 Japan in the Southeast.