

Senate Resolution 238

By: Senator Wilkinson of the 50th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the PlanFirst program; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, thirty years ago the General Assembly enacted the Georgia Planning Act which  
3 established that the State of Georgia maintains an essential public interest in protecting and  
4 preserving the natural resources, the environment, and the vital areas of the state and to serve  
5 these interests through coordinated and comprehensive planning by all local governments;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, local governments throughout our state have undertaken the tasks necessary to  
8 adopt and implement comprehensive plans which protect and enhance the quality of life  
9 within their respective communities; and

10 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia recognizes the important role cities and counties play in  
11 fostering the state's image as an attractive place to invest, conduct business, and raise a  
12 family; moreover, planning creates an environment of predictability for economic  
13 development, property owners, and the general public; and

14 WHEREAS, it is the wish of this Senate to recognize and honor those communities that have  
15 dedicated their purposeful work to establishing a vision for their future growth and  
16 development and have taken the steps necessary to set a path needed to achieve this vision;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Community Affairs acknowledges the importance  
19 of coordinated and comprehensive planning to the State; therefore, the PlanFirst program has  
20 been created to recognize those communities in Georgia that have shown an exemplary  
21 history of comprehensive plan development and implementation; and

22 WHEREAS, this Senate is justly proud to honor the PlanFirst Class of 2019 which includes  
23 the City of Centerville, City of Chamblee, Colquitt County, City of Fitzgerald, City of

24 Hiawassee, City of Swainsboro, City of Sylvester, City of Toccoa, and the City of  
25 Washington for their outstanding and commendable community planning efforts and  
26 accomplishments; and further includes the Columbus Consolidated Government, City of  
27 Dublin, City of Gainesville, Gwinnett County, Liberty County, City of Lula, City of  
28 Porterdale, City of Roswell and the City of Suwanee for their continued commitment to  
29 successful planning implementation and hereby designates them as Georgia PlanFirst  
30 communities; and

31 WHEREAS, it is the sense of this Senate that those local governments that enhance the  
32 well-being and vitality of their communities and have shown a long and sustained  
33 commitment to excellence in planning and plan implementation certainly have earned the  
34 recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great State.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
36 commend the Georgia PlanFirst program to other local governments, and honor the City of  
37 Centerville, City of Chamblee, Colquitt County, City of Fitzgerald, City of Hiawassee, City  
38 of Swainsboro, City of Sylvester, City of Toccoa, and the City of Washington for their many  
39 community planning accomplishments, in conjunction with the Georgia Planning Act.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
41 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the aforementioned  
42 communities, the public, and the press.