

Senate Resolution 881

By: Senator Brass of the 28th

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association for the development of  
2 the Best Management Practices for Georgia Golf Courses and recognizing March 9, 2020,  
3 as Georgia Golf Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the development of the Best Management Practices for Georgia Golf Courses  
5 was made possible by superintendents in the State of Georgia, the Georgia Golf Course  
6 Superintendents Association, and turfgrass scientists at the University of Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, funding and support of this project were made possible with grants from the  
8 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and with materials from the  
9 Best Management Practices Template developed by GCSAA, with funding from the  
10 Environmental Institute for Golf and the United States Golf Association; and

11 WHEREAS, with approximately 800 members, the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents  
12 Association is one of the largest affiliated chapters of the GCSAA; the association and its  
13 members enhance the game of golf and the golf course management profession through  
14 education, environmental stewardship, and advocacy; and

15 WHEREAS, Georgia's nearly 400 golf courses are, on average, 96 percent recreational open  
16 spaces of grasslands, woods, or water bodies; these lands are functionally excellent at  
17 harvesting and storing water that falls on them, eliminating or reducing erosion, sequestering  
18 carbon and nitrogen, and improving the physical properties of soils; and

19 WHEREAS, these green spaces are biologically diverse habitats for plants and animals,  
20 ranging from large native species to soil microorganisms; and

21 WHEREAS, Georgia golf courses host an industry that generates significant economic  
22 benefit; in Georgia, golf drives \$2.4 billion in economic impact every year and supports  
23 nearly 57,000 jobs; and

24 WHEREAS, through televised tournaments and championships, such as The Masters  
25 Tournament at Augusta National Golf Club and the PGA Tour Championship at East Lake  
26 Golf Club, the game draws enormous national and international interest in, and visitation to,  
27 the State of Georgia; and

28 WHEREAS, today's superintendents draw on more environmental science than any  
29 generation before them; their training included biological sciences, chemistry, horticulture,  
30 soils, environmental sciences, and many related disciplines, uniquely qualifying them for  
31 their duties; and

32 WHEREAS, carefully adopted best management practices can potentially improve the  
33 financial sustainability of golf courses, as well as environmental sustainability; these methods  
34 and techniques are found to be the most effective and practical means of achieving an  
35 objective, such as preventing water quality impacts or reducing pesticide usage; and

36 WHEREAS, pesticide best management practices provide the necessary guidance for the  
37 proper transport, storing, mixing, and application of pesticides to address target pests and  
38 minimize impacts to nontarget species; design and construction best management practices  
39 and storm-water best management practices address the potential for erosion and  
40 sedimentation and ways to mitigate that potential; and

41 WHEREAS, the design and maintenance of irrigation systems, as well as proper irrigation  
42 scheduling, careful selection of turfgrass cultivars, and incorporation of cultural practices that  
43 increase the water-holding capacity of soil are addressed through these best management  
44 practices.

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
46 commend the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association for the development of the  
47 Best Management Practices for Georgia Golf Courses and recognize March 9, 2020, as  
48 Georgia Golf Day at the state capitol.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
50 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Georgia Golf  
51 Course Superintendents Association.