

Senate Resolution 884

By: Senators Wilkinson of the 50th, Harper of the 7th, Black of the 8th and Ginn of the 47th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 17, 2016, as Georgia Agribusiness Council's 50th Anniversary; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Agribusiness Council was formed in 1966 by members of the
4 University of Georgia's Agricultural Alumni Association, citing a need for a diverse
5 organization to help improve business conditions within the agricultural field and to enhance
6 public understanding of agriculture and its inter-relationship to all segments of society; and

7 WHEREAS, the council's mission is "To advance the business of agriculture through
8 economic development, environmental stewardship, and education to improve the quality of
9 life for all Georgians"; the council works to fulfill this mission every day while always
10 making their members' interests a top priority; and

11 WHEREAS, the first board of directors consisted of 15 agribusiness leaders, representing
12 companies that still maintain membership on the council, including Mr. Harley Langdale of
13 The Langdale Company, Mr. Olin Ginn of Georgia Power Company, and Mr. W.F. Mullen
14 of Rome Plow Company; and

15 WHEREAS, since these early beginnings, the council has grown to 960 member companies,
16 covering Georgia's diverse agribusiness industry of farmers, foresters, ranchers, fertilizer and
17 crop protection product suppliers, equipment manufacturers, financial institutions,
18 commodity associations, transportation services, processors, educators, energy and
19 communication service providers, grocers and food distributors, attorneys, feed and grain
20 dealers, ag retailers and custom applicators, nurseries, landscapers, and more; and

21 WHEREAS, during these first 50 years, the Council Board of Directors has been composed
22 of agribusiness leaders with diverse backgrounds from around the state, representing all
23 sectors of agriculture and forestry; and

24 WHEREAS, through these five decades, the council has grown, developed, and worked to
25 fulfill its mission under various association leaders, including W.A. Sutton, Henry Simons,
26 Jr., Frank Welton, Charles Crowder, Tal Duvall, Gary Black, and Bryan Tolar; and

27 WHEREAS, the council built a very successful self-insured workers' compensation insurance
28 program, AgriTrust of Georgia, and has partnered in the development of an innovative health
29 insurance initiative, AgriHealth of Georgia, to serve the needs of the agribusiness industry
30 and its workforce; and

31 WHEREAS, agricultural education is of the utmost importance to the council, and support
32 of 4-H and FFA in addition to providing grants to school teachers, student scholarships,
33 Congressional Fellowships, and internship opportunities for young people are all key
34 commitments; and

35 WHEREAS, the Georgia Agribusiness Council, with the support of their membership and
36 under the dedicated leadership of its board of directors and staff, will continue leading
37 Georgia's strongest industry as an exemplary voice of Georgia's largest and strongest
38 industry—agriculture.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
40 recognize January 17, 2016, as Georgia Agribusiness Council's 50th Anniversary.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
42 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the Georgia
43 Agribusiness Council.