

House Bill 530

By: Representatives Knight of the 130th, Dickey of the 140th, and Burns of the 159th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 4 of Title 1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state
2 holidays and observances, so as to designate a Purebred Dog Day in Georgia; to provide for
3 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 **SECTION 1.**

6 Chapter 4 of Title 1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state holidays and
7 observances, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

8 "1-4-24.

9 (a) The General Assembly recognizes:

- 10 (1) The benefits and contributions of purebred dogs to the State of Georgia;
11 (2) Dedicated individuals in Georgia breed dogs to develop unique, predictable
12 characteristics that enable dogs to excel in a wide range of beneficial areas;
13 (3) Purebred dogs are living legacies of the cultures that created them, and historically
14 these dogs worked alongside their people and provided them companionship;
15 (4) Today, the service of these breeds continues as they work alongside humans and
16 provide inestimable companionship while serving as guide dogs, service dogs,

conservation dogs, livestock guardians, search and rescue dogs, earth dogs, police dogs, canine soldiers serving by the sides of our military men and women, and guardians of family, home, and hearth;

(5) Purebred dogs have been of enormous help to medical science, serving as models for many heritable human diseases, playing a role in humanity's understanding of the human and canine genomes, and benefiting pharmaceutical research and development;

(6) Purebred dogs are working dogs, serving as avalanche dogs, trackers and trailers, herders, controllers of vermin, water rescuers, carting and sled dogs, retrievers, protectors, hunters, and bird dogs, and always they are the heartbeat of a companion near and dear to humans;

(7) All dogs should be valued, whatever their ancestry, but the purpose-bred dog and the predictability of its breed should be cherished and preserved; and

(8) Each breed is indelibly etched in the history of the culture that created it just as surely as that culture's music, art, and language.

(b) May 1 of each year is designated as 'Purebred Dog Day' in Georgia."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.