

## House Resolution 261

By: Representatives Smith of the 70<sup>th</sup>, Gilliard of the 162<sup>nd</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Hitchens of the 161<sup>st</sup>, and Petrea of the 166<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Patt Gilliard-Gunn; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, a dedicated advocate for cultural heritage preservation and community  
3 empowerment, Patt Gilliard-Gunn serves as co-founder of the Susie King Taylor Center for  
4 Jubilee Inc. and CEO of the Center for Jubilee, Reconciliation & Healing, leading initiatives  
5 in cultural enrichment, economic support, and historical reconciliation across the  
6 southeastern United States; and

7 WHEREAS, she further serves as the CEO of Underground Tours, a nationally recognized  
8 tourism company that highlights the African American journey from slavery to freedom,  
9 offering cultural heritage experiences that have been featured in *Conde Nast Travel*, *Time*  
10 *Out Magazine*, *USA TODAY TRAVEL*, and *Forbes Magazine*; and

11 WHEREAS, her leadership in cultural preservation includes her work with the Savannah  
12 Gallery on Slavery & Healing, the Davenport House, and the Slave Dwelling Project, where  
13 she played a key role in organizing its inaugural conference and securing over \$100,000 in  
14 grants and sponsorships; and

15 WHEREAS, she was instrumental in the renaming of a public square in Savannah to "Taylor  
16 Square" in honor of Susie King Taylor, the first African American nurse to serve in the Civil  
17 War; and

18 WHEREAS, Patt Gilliard-Gunn additionally holds key leadership roles such as chairwoman  
19 of the Georgia Gullah Geechee Heritage Society, where she works to advance cultural  
20 awareness and advocacy throughout the region; and

21 WHEREAS, her contributions to historical storytelling and media representation have earned  
22 widespread recognition, including appearances in the PBS documentary *The Cost of*  
23 *Inheritance*, the international podcast The Cotton Capital, and *THIS IS US*, a one-on-one film  
24 feature with Oscar-nominated actor Colman Domingo; and

25 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this  
26 remarkable and distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
28 the members of this body recognize and commend Patt Gilliard-Gunn for her outstanding  
29 contributions to cultural heritage preservation, economic development, and social  
30 empowerment as well as extend their most sincere best wishes for her continued success.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
32 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Patt  
33 Gilliard-Gunn.