

Senate Resolution 385

By: Senators Walker III of the 20th, Kennedy of the 18th, Halpern of the 39th, McLaurin of the 14th and Echols of the 49th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 13, 2025, as Downtown Atlanta Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, a broad group of advocates is working to revamp and strengthen economic
4 development in downtown Atlanta; and

5 WHEREAS, an independent economic analysis found that downtown Atlanta generates \$580
6 million in annual public revenues for the State of Georgia and a corresponding \$30 billion
7 in annual economic impact; and

8 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has partnered on major projects in downtown Atlanta,
9 including but not limited to Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Georgia State University, the Signia
10 Hotel, and new offices for state employees; and

11 WHEREAS, these developments are part of a broader effort to revitalize downtown Atlanta,
12 with a focus on creating a vibrant, mixed-use neighborhood that combines historic
13 preservation with new construction and opportunities for entrepreneurs and residents alike;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Atlanta Ventures and South Downtown have invested more than \$100 million
16 in the revitalization of 10 contiguous city blocks to breathe new life into a
17 long-underinvested swath of real estate that abuts several important destinations for Atlanta
18 residents, tourists, and government workers and are bringing several new retail and restaurant
19 concepts to downtown as a vital part of preparing the neighborhood for the estimated 3.5
20 million visitors expected for the 2026 FIFA World Cup; and

21 WHEREAS, CIM Group, the developer of Centennial Yards, has made significant progress
22 in its ambitious \$5 billion redevelopment project in downtown Atlanta, topping out the
23 304-unit apartment building called The Mitchell, constructing the 292-room Hotel Phoenix,
24 laying the foundation for a 290-room hotel along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, completing
25 Lofts at Centennial Yards South with 162 units of housing, and breaking ground on an
26 eight-acre mixed-use entertainment hub; and

27 WHEREAS, Central Atlanta Progress, the City of Atlanta, and its partners are constructing
28 Phase 1 of the Stitch, a vision for reconnecting north downtown Atlanta with
29 transformational and strategic infrastructure investments, policy changes, and programs; and

30 WHEREAS, the Stitch vision proposes to create more than 17 acres of new community park
31 space atop a three-quarter-mile platform spanning the Downtown Connector between Ted
32 Turner Drive and Piedmont Avenue as well as to implement transportation infrastructure
33 improvements, policies, and community initiatives, which will catalyze an estimated 18
34 million square feet of new development and \$9 billion in economic output for the State of
35 Georgia; and

36 WHEREAS, Invest Atlanta is leading the Two Peachtree Street Redevelopment, a \$400
37 million project that will create affordable market-rate apartments; and

38 WHEREAS, Georgia State University, with the help of the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation,
39 is planning a \$107 million transformation and upgrade project on the university's downtown
40 campus; and

41 WHEREAS, downtown Atlanta's comprehensive \$5.2 billion investment pipeline,
42 representing a broad range of developers and owners, includes 7,100 residential units, 840
43 student housing beds, 2,240 hotel rooms, 1.7 million commercial square feet, and 2.3 million
44 institutional square feet; and

45 WHEREAS, Downtown Atlanta Day 2025 raises awareness of the efforts and investments
46 being made in downtown Atlanta, working in partnership with Central Atlanta Progress, the
47 Metro Atlanta Chamber, and others and encouraging continued economic development.

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
49 recognize March 13, 2025, as Downtown Atlanta Day at the state capitol.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
51 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
52 press.