

House Resolution 664

By: Representative Burchett of the 176th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the esteemed delegation from Wexford, Ireland, upon their visit to the Georgia
2 State Capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia and County Wexford, Ireland, share a long-standing history
4 of cultural, economic, and educational exchange, fostering mutual understanding and
5 goodwill between our peoples; and

6 WHEREAS, this year, 2025, marks the 180th anniversary of the first commercial voyage of
7 a Wexford vessel, the barque *Dunbrody*, to the Port of Savannah; and

8 WHEREAS, the people of Wexford County have made significant contributions to Georgia's
9 history, heritage, and prosperity, strengthening the ties between our great state and the nation
10 of Ireland; and

11 WHEREAS, the delegation from Wexford County, Ireland, visiting the Georgia State Capitol
12 represents a distinguished group of leaders, including government officials, business
13 representatives, cultural ambassadors, and members of the Irish diaspora; and

14 WHEREAS, this visit serves to further enhance the strong relationship between Georgia and
15 Wexford, promoting economic development, cultural enrichment, and educational
16 collaboration for the benefit of both regions; and

17 WHEREAS, Georgia Southern University and Wexford County Council have developed a
18 significant partnership that fosters academic exchange and research collaboration, providing
19 students and faculty with opportunities for cross-cultural engagement and learning; and

20 WHEREAS, Georgia Southern University is the first public university in the United States
21 to establish a learning center in Ireland; and

22 WHEREAS, since opening, Georgia Southern University's Wexford Campus has provided
23 high-impact experiential learning opportunities to over 300 undergraduate and graduate
24 students across a range of disciplines; and

25 WHEREAS, Georgia Southern University has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with
26 South East Technological University in Ireland that enables a strategic research partnership
27 centered on coastal sustainability and resilience and advanced manufacturing engineering;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, Georgia Southern University, the Savannah Economic Development Authority,
30 Wexford County Council, and Wexford Enterprise Center are the founding partners of
31 TradeBridge, an economic development initiative that facilitates trade and investment
32 between the Coastal Georgia region and the Southeast Ireland region; and

33 WHEREAS, Wexford County Council welcomed members of the Georgia House of
34 Representatives to Wexford in September 2024, marking a significant milestone in fostering
35 deeper economic, educational, and cultural ties between Georgia and Ireland; and

36 WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to welcome our honored guests and express our deepest
37 appreciation for the friendship and partnership that Georgia and Wexford County continue
38 to share.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
40 the members of this body honor the distinguished delegation from Wexford County, Ireland,
41 upon their visit to the Georgia State Capitol, extend their heartfelt hospitality, and express
42 their sincere hope for continued collaboration and friendship between Georgia and Ireland.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
44 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
45 delegation from Wexford County, Ireland.