

House Resolution 1261

By: Representatives Buckner of the 137th, Oliver of the 84th, and Williams of the 37th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing 2026 as the Year of the Georgia Birding Trail; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Birds Georgia is celebrating its hundredth anniversary as a conservation
3 organization celebrating and protecting birds that fly through Georgia and those which call
4 Georgia their year-round home; and
- 5 WHEREAS, bird watching brings over ten billion tourist dollars into Georgia each year; and
- 6 WHEREAS, bird enthusiasts want to find and enjoy prime birding locations across all of
7 Georgia; and
- 8 WHEREAS, the new Georgia Birding Trail is a centennial birthday gift to the state,
9 providing real-time data on bird sightings for guiding birders; and
- 10 WHEREAS, birds are essential indicators of environmental health, providing invaluable
11 services, including pollination, seed dispersal, and pest control; and
- 12 WHEREAS, bird populations face significant threats requiring urgent conservation action;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, the recognition of this, the Year of the Georgia Birding Trail, encourages
15 individuals to engage in bird-friendly practices, such as planting native plants that provide
16 necessary food and shelter; and

17 WHEREAS, public engagement through birding, citizen science, and the use of technology
18 like the Merlin Bird ID app can foster a deeper connection to nature and a commitment to
19 conservation.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 the members of this body recognize 2026 as the Year of the Georgia Birding Trail and urge
22 all citizens to protect bird habitats in their local communities, learn about local bird species
23 and their ecological roles, and support conservation initiatives that ensure a sustainable future
24 for all feathered species.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
26 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to Birds
27 Georgia, the public, and the press.