

## House Resolution 1122

By: Representatives Belton of the 112<sup>th</sup>, Corbett of the 174<sup>th</sup>, Nix of the 69<sup>th</sup>, Burchett of the 176<sup>th</sup>, Prince of the 127<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the Georgia Sentinel Landscape Partnership; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia has a rich agricultural and working land heritage and contains open  
4 spaces and habitats that support recreational activities and numerous wildlife species; and

5 WHEREAS, Georgia is home to some the nation's most important military installations and  
6 ranges, including Fort Stewart/ Hunter Army Airfield, Fort Benning, Fort Gordon, Townsend  
7 Bombing Range, Robins Air Force Base, Moody Air Force Base, Marine Corps Logistics,  
8 and Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay; and

9 WHEREAS, Georgia's 42,000-plus farms contribute billions of dollars to Georgia's economy,  
10 with one in seven Georgians working in agriculture, forestry, or a related field; and the above  
11 military installations support more than 254,000 servicemen and women, civilian employees,  
12 retirees, and family members; and

13 WHEREAS, the military accounts for a significant portion of Georgia's economic activity,  
14 with an annual economic impact of more than \$20 billion; and

15 WHEREAS, agriculture, forestry, recreation, and habitat preservation on private lands  
16 surrounding military installations is a land use compatible with military readiness training  
17 occurring at military installations; and

18 WHEREAS, preserving key landscapes near military installations strengthens the economies  
19 of farms and forests and, in turn, strengthens the economy of the State of Georgia, while also  
20 ensuring the military's ability to conduct vital test and training missions within these  
21 installations and their areas of operation that anchor such landscapes; and

22 WHEREAS, the United States Departments of Defense, Agriculture, and the Interior created  
23 the Sentinel Landscape Partnership, a clearly delineated federal governmental conservation  
24 policy, to designate certain landscapes that are critical to the nation's defense mission and to  
25 preserve the working economies and natural resources within designated landscapes; and

26 WHEREAS, the United States Departments of Defense, Agriculture, and the Interior  
27 coordinate the Sentinel Landscape Partnership at the national level through the Sentinel  
28 Landscape Federal Coordination Committee; and

29 WHEREAS, the committee designated Georgia as a Sentinel Landscape in 2017; and

30 WHEREAS, the Georgia Sentinel Landscape contains approximately 1.3 million acres of  
31 open space that is critical to working economies, military readiness, and natural resources;  
32 and

33 WHEREAS, protection of the open space lands within the Georgia Sentinel Landscape  
34 would ensure the availability of these lands for future agricultural, forestry, and recreational  
35 use, thereby yielding a significant public benefit to the people of the State of Georgia.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
37 the members of this body recognize and commend the Georgia Sentinel Landscape  
38 Partnership and protection of land within Georgia's Sentinel Landscape.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
40 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
41 public and the press.