

## House Resolution 1219

By: Representatives Gaines of the 117<sup>th</sup>, McCall of the 33<sup>rd</sup>, England of the 116<sup>th</sup>, Pirkle of the 155<sup>th</sup>, Wiedower of the 119<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending the success of TifTuf bermudagrass and the work of Dr.  
2 Wayne Hanna, Dr. Brian Schwartz, and the University of Georgia; and for other purposes.
- 3 WHEREAS, in the State of Georgia, the highly acclaimed new bermudagrass variety called  
4 TifTuf is taking the turfgrass industry by storm; and
- 5 WHEREAS, it was developed by Dr. Wayne Hanna and received rigorous scientific testing  
6 by turfgrass breeder Dr. Brian Schwartz at the University of Georgia Tifton Campus; and
- 7 WHEREAS, field testing was conducted in Georgia and across the south, including Florida,  
8 North Carolina, Oklahoma, and Texas; and
- 9 WHEREAS, after nearly 25 years of testing and development, TifTuf was jointly released  
10 in 2016 by the University of Georgia and the USDA Agricultural Research Service; and
- 11 WHEREAS, no other bermudagrass ever released from this breeding program has accrued  
12 more data to support its agronomic qualities; and
- 13 WHEREAS, TifTuf exhibits superior drought tolerance compared to older bermudagrass  
14 varieties, using less water and staying green longer without irrigation because of its unique  
15 physiological characteristics; and
- 16 WHEREAS, TifTuf uses 38 percent less water and retains 95 percent more green leaf tissue  
17 during drought stress when compared to the highly popular Tifway variety; and
- 18 WHEREAS, TifTuf exhibits exceptional wear tolerance, quickly recovering from any  
19 damage, which makes it a great choice for public spaces and sports fields; and

20 WHEREAS, it has successfully demonstrated its durability at Centennial Olympic Park in  
21 Atlanta and the Great Waters Golf Course at Reynolds Lake Oconee, and for football fans,  
22 it has performed beautifully at Williams Brice Stadium in Gainesville, Florida, and at Amon  
23 Carter Stadium in Fort Worth, Texas; and

24 WHEREAS, TifTuf has a very fine leaf texture and a vibrant green color coupled with  
25 excellent cold tolerance, which allows it to stay green longer into the fall and green up faster  
26 in the spring in comparison to other bermudagrass varieties; and

27 WHEREAS, TifTuf is Georgia bred and is currently available at numerous sod farms across  
28 the state, making it Georgia grown.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
30 the members of this body recognize and commend the success of TifTuf bermudagrass, the  
31 work of Dr. Wayne Hanna and Dr. Brian Schwartz, and this achievement by the University  
32 of Georgia.

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