

House Resolution 1375

By: Representatives Powell of the 32nd, Hogan of the 179th, Williams of the 148th, Blackmon of the 146th, Rhodes of the 120th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association for the development of
2 the Best Management Practices for Georgia Golf Courses and recognizing March 9, 2020,
3 as Georgia Golf Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the development of the Best Management Practices for Georgia Golf Courses
5 was made possible by superintendents in the State of Georgia, the Georgia Golf Course
6 Superintendents Association, and turfgrass scientists at the University of Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, funding and support of this project were made possible with grants from the
8 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and with materials from the
9 Best Management Practices Template developed by GCSAA, with funding from the
10 Environmental Institute for Golf and the United States Golf Association; and

11 WHEREAS, with approximately 800 members, the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents
12 Association is one of the largest affiliated chapters of the GCSAA; the association and its
13 members enhance the game of golf and the golf course management profession through
14 education, environmental stewardship, and advocacy; and

15 WHEREAS, Georgia's nearly 400 golf courses are, on average, 96 percent recreational open
16 spaces of grasslands, woods, or water bodies; these lands are functionally excellent at
17 harvesting and storing water that falls on them, eliminating or reducing erosion, sequestering
18 carbon and nitrogen, and improving the physical properties of soils; and

19 WHEREAS, these green spaces are biologically diverse habitats for plants and animals,
20 ranging from large native species to soil microorganisms; and

21 WHEREAS, Georgia golf courses host an industry that generates significant economic
22 benefit; in Georgia, golf drives \$2.4 billion in economic impact every year and supports
23 nearly 57,000 jobs; and

24 WHEREAS, through televised tournaments and championships, such as The Masters
25 Tournament at Augusta National Golf Club and the PGA Tour Championship at East Lake
26 Golf Club, the game draws enormous national and international interest in, and visitation to,
27 the State of Georgia; and

28 WHEREAS, today's superintendents draw on more environmental science than any
29 generation before them; their training included biological sciences, chemistry, horticulture,
30 soils, environmental sciences, and many related disciplines, uniquely qualifying them for
31 their duties; and

32 WHEREAS, carefully adopted best management practices can potentially improve the
33 financial sustainability of golf courses, as well as environmental sustainability; these methods
34 and techniques are found to be the most effective and practical means of achieving an
35 objective, such as preventing water quality impacts or reducing pesticide usage; and

36 WHEREAS, pesticide best management practices provide the necessary guidance for the
37 proper transport, storing, mixing, and application of pesticides to address target pests and
38 minimize impacts to nontarget species; design and construction best management practices
39 and storm-water best management practices address the potential for erosion and
40 sedimentation and ways to mitigate that potential; and

41 WHEREAS, the design and maintenance of irrigation systems, as well as proper irrigation
42 scheduling, careful selection of turfgrass cultivars, and incorporation of cultural practices that
43 increase the water-holding capacity of soil are addressed through these best management
44 practices.

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
46 the members of this body commend the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association
47 for the development of the Best Management Practices for Georgia Golf Courses and
48 recognize March 9, 2020, as Georgia Golf Day at the state capitol.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
50 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
51 Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association.