

## House Resolution 79

By: Representative Caldwell of the 20<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing cultural, economic, and educational cooperation with the United Kingdom of  
2 Great Britain and Northern Ireland and commending the Consul General Andrew Staunton  
3 of the United Kingdom for his indefatigable efforts on behalf of the special relationship  
4 between the United Kingdom and the State of Georgia; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, there is a special bond of friendship between the citizens of Georgia and the  
6 United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the people of Georgia welcome  
7 all opportunities to grow a deeper relationship at all levels, including cultural, academic,  
8 business, and others; and

9 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is proud to serve as home to the British Consulate General  
10 for the Southeast; and

11 WHEREAS, Andrew Staunton serves in Atlanta as Her Majesty's Consul General; and

12 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is proud to be the home of approximately 330 U.K.  
13 facilities operating in Georgia; these U.K. affiliated facilities employ more than 18,800  
14 Georgians; and

15 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has had continuous representation in the United Kingdom  
16 since 2002, and Mike Harling has led the state's economic development efforts in this market  
17 since the position was established; and

18 WHEREAS, the British-American Business Council of Georgia (BABC-GA) is one of the  
19 largest 20 transatlantic business networks; with Carl Newton serving as president, this  
20 organization is dedicated to promoting connections, trade, and investments by supporting  
21 economic growth between the southeastern United States and the United Kingdom; and

22 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has two official Sister-City agreements with the United  
23 Kingdom: LaGrange-Craigavon and Atlanta-Newcastle upon Tyne; and

24 WHEREAS, the University System of Georgia offers 80 study abroad programs to the United  
25 Kingdom, including business, religious studies, art history, public policy, theater, and film;  
26 and

27 WHEREAS, the United Kingdom is a top export destination for the State of Georgia, with  
28 exports totaling over \$1.28 billion, including civilian aircrafts and parts, wood pellets, paper  
29 and paperboard, peanuts, and combustion piston engines; and

30 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia's imports from the United Kingdom totaled \$3.96 billion,  
31 with top imports including motor vehicles, fork-lift trucks, turbojets, medicaments, and parts  
32 of airplanes and helicopters; and

33 WHEREAS, Delta Air Lines, Virgin Atlantic, and British Airways offer daily direct flights  
34 between Atlanta and London, providing the opportunity for business and cultural  
35 relationships to grow; and

36 WHEREAS, over 100,000 British tourists visited the State of Georgia, contributing more  
37 than \$170 million to Georgia's economy; and

38 WHEREAS, the United States and United Kingdom military relations are historically strong,  
39 with the British Royal Navy working with the United States Navy at Kings Bay Naval Base.

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
41 the members of this body express cultural, economic, and educational cooperation with the  
42 United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and commend the Consul General  
43 Andrew Staunton of the United Kingdom for his indefatigable efforts on behalf of the special  
44 relationship between the United Kingdom and the State of Georgia.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
46 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to  
47 Consul General Andrew Staunton.