

Senate Resolution 191

By: Senators Miller of the 49th, Ginn of the 47th, Brass of the 28th, Dugan of the 30th, Beach of the 21st and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the 45th anniversary of the Consulate-General of Japan in the Southeast; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Consulate-General of Japan in the Southeast has strengthened the cultural,
4 political, and economic ties between Georgia and Japan and has worked to help and support
5 Japanese citizens and companies in the Southeast; and

6 WHEREAS, a long and steady friendship has grown between Georgia and Japan, as shown
7 by the establishment of the Office of the State of Georgia in Japan 46 years ago; and

8 WHEREAS, Georgia has become a model for welcoming Japanese companies to the
9 Southeast, and the region has grown to become an indispensable part of the United
10 States-Japan relationship; and

11 WHEREAS, the Japanese community has thrived together with all other communities to
12 make Georgia greater; and

13 WHEREAS, current trade between Georgia and Japan is nearly \$6.3 billion in import and
14 export trade; and

15 WHEREAS, there are nearly 650 Japan affiliated offices now located in Georgia, employing
16 more than 35,000 people; and

17 WHEREAS, the 42nd Annual Joint Meeting of the Southeast U.S./Japan Association and the
18 Japan-U.S. Southeast Association will be held in Savannah, Georgia, in October, 2019; and

19 WHEREAS, the Consulate-General was a founder of JapanFest Atlanta in 1986, and helped
20 it grow into the largest Japanese cultural festival in the Southeast; and

21 WHEREAS, Americus, Atlanta, Augusta, Columbus, Dublin, Elberton, Gainesville,
22 LaGrange, Macon, and Rome have sister city relationships with cities in Japan, making
23 Georgia the state with the highest number of Japanese sister cities in the Southeast, and this
24 state also has a sister state relationship with Kagoshima Prefecture; and

25 WHEREAS, nearly 1,000 Georgia public school students are studying the Japanese language,
26 eight Georgia institutes of higher education have Japanese language programs, and, since
27 1987, 368 Georgians have participated in the Japan Exchange and Teaching program.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
29 recognize the 45th anniversary of the Consulate-General of Japan in the Southeast and the
30 long and steady friendship between this state and Japan and commend the efforts of the
31 Consulate-General to strengthen cultural, educational, political, and economic ties between
32 Georgia and Japan.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
34 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
35 Consulate-General of Japan in the Southeast.