

House Resolution 1716

By: Representatives Mitchell of the 88th, Mayo of the 84th, and Jones of the 62nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the many contributions Caribbean Americans have made to the State of
2 Georgia and recognizing March 11, 2016, as Caribbean American Legislative Day at the
3 state capitol; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Caribbean Americans are committed workers, investors, and consumers who
5 contribute to the improvement and economic success of the United States, and their impact
6 extends from farms in Florida to corporate board rooms in New York; and

7 WHEREAS, people of Caribbean American heritage have made significant political and
8 military contributions to the United States for more than 240 years, including Alexander
9 Hamilton, who was born in the Caribbean and was a founding father and Chief Staff Aide
10 to George Washington, and Crispus Attucks, the first person to sacrifice his life for the
11 freedom of the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, Caribbean Americans take great pride in sharing their culture through music,
13 and they created musical genres, such as reggae, reggaeton, salsa, and the melodic steel pan
14 music, which have had an influence on mainstream American music; and

15 WHEREAS, Caribbean Americans Kerry Washington, Sidney Poitier, Madge Sinclair, Harry
16 Belafonte, Sheryl Lee Ralph, and Al Roker, among others, entertain the world through
17 television, stage, and screen and are examples of outstanding public figures who have
18 significantly impacted millions of individuals; and

19 WHEREAS, the United States Representative for California's 13th congressional district,
20 Barbara Lee, created Caribbean Heritage Month in June, 2006, based on the belief that, by
21 opening its doors to immigrants, the United States gave foreigners an opportunity to pursue
22 their dreams, utilize their intellectual gifts, and hone their skills in a way that has made a
23 substantial and positive difference to the nation, themselves, and their children.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
25 the members of this body commend Caribbean Americans for the many contributions they
26 have made to the State of Georgia and the United States and recognize March 11, 2016, as
27 Caribbean American Legislative Day at the state capitol.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
29 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
30 Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce of Georgia, Inc., the Caribbean Association of
31 Georgia, Inc., and the Caribbean Council of Presidents of Georgia.