

## House Resolution 226

By: Representatives Smith of the 70<sup>th</sup>, Burns of the 159<sup>th</sup>, Abrams of the 89<sup>th</sup>, Jones of the 47<sup>th</sup>, Harden of the 148<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Georgia Conservancy on its 50th anniversary and recognizing  
2 February 27, 2017, as Georgia Conservancy Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Conservancy was established on February 25, 1967, at Sweetwater  
4 Creek and was officially chartered on May 8, 1967; and

5 WHEREAS, the Georgia Conservancy's vision is to promote a Georgia where people and the  
6 environment thrive by protecting Georgia's natural resources for present and future  
7 generations; and

8 WHEREAS, the Georgia Conservancy has a rich history of working with private citizens,  
9 businesses, state and local government, and academia to protect and conserve the state's  
10 natural resources through a pragmatic, science based approach; and

11 WHEREAS, the Georgia Conservancy was pivotal in the protection of Panola Mountain,  
12 Sweetwater Creek, Arabia Mountain, Cumberland Island National Seashore, the Okefenokee  
13 Wilderness Area, the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, and numerous state  
14 parks and wildlife management areas across the State of Georgia; and

15 WHEREAS, the Georgia Conservancy has had a Coastal Office for more than 45 years,  
16 created a land use plan for Jekyll Island, was critical in the passage of the Coastal  
17 Marshlands Protection Act, and continues to advocate for Georgia's precious coastal areas;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, the Georgia Conservancy has faithfully served Georgia's natural resources by  
20 advocating for sound environmental policy and by serving on numerous advisory committees  
21 and appointed commissions focused on state-wide conservation initiatives and issues; and

22 WHEREAS, the Georgia Conservancy's Blueprints for Successful Communities program  
23 steers communities large and small toward sustainable land use decisions and has completed  
24 33 master plans for such communities across the State of Georgia; and

25 WHEREAS, the Georgia Conservancy's Land Conservation Initiative works with private  
26 landowners to find conservation solutions and has helped to conserve thousands of acres of  
27 critical lands; and

28 WHEREAS, the Georgia Conservancy introduces thousands of citizens to Georgia's  
29 incredible outdoors each year through its Stewardship Trips Program; and

30 WHEREAS, the Georgia Conservancy will acknowledge their 50th anniversary with the  
31 theme "Our Past is Your Present" throughout 2017 by celebrating Georgia's culture of  
32 conservation and by working toward a future of stewardship of natural resources in Georgia  
33 for generations to come.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
35 the members of this body commend the Georgia Conservancy on its 50th anniversary and  
36 recognize February 27, 2017, as Georgia Conservancy Day at the state capitol.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
38 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
39 Georgia Conservancy.