

House Resolution 372

By: Representatives Kendrick of the 95th, Taylor of the 92nd, Carter of the 93rd, and Moore of the 91st

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Big Haynes Creek Nature Center, located at the Georgia International
2 Horse Park, for initiating its third tree-planting ceremony in partnership with the City of
3 Conyers for the state's annual Arbor Day celebration; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, on February 24, 2023, Mayor Vince Evans, employees from the city's Code
5 Enforcement division, and the staff of the Georgia International Horse Park gathered with
6 other city employees and community members to plant a pink flowering dogwood tree to
7 encourage residents to plant native trees and shrubs on their own properties to enhance the
8 community and increase wildlife biodiversity; and

9 WHEREAS, Big Haynes Creek Nature Center consists of 173 acres of forests and wetlands
10 with a comprehensive trail system and is committed to the Arbor Day Foundation mission
11 to raise awareness of trees and the important role that they play in our environment; and

12 WHEREAS, in addition to the tranquil aesthetics trees provides for visitors, many animals
13 that call Big Haynes Creek Nature Center their "home" use trees for resting, nesting, and for
14 places from which to hunt or capture prey; and

15 WHEREAS, Big Haynes Creek Nature Center proudly supports the mission of the city's
16 Code Enforcement's tree ordinance, which was developed to keep the city green and
17 sustainable for future generations; and

18 WHEREAS, the City of Conyers celebrated 31 consecutive years of being named a Tree City
19 USA by the Arbor Day Foundation on this day; Big Haynes Creek Nature Center was
20 honored to be a part of this distinguished accomplishment; and

21 WHEREAS, a pink flowering dogwood tree was chosen not only for its natural beauty but
22 also for its high wildlife value, which will benefit silk moths and several species of
23 butterflies, bees, over 75 species of songbirds (both native and migrating), chipmunks, deer,
24 rabbits, and several other animal species that reside at the Big Haynes Creek Nature Center;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, the pink dogwood was also chosen to benefit the environment; the leaves of the
27 dogwood tree decompose more quickly than those of many other species, which helps add
28 organic matter to the soil for the surrounding plants as they grow.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body commend the Big Haynes Creek Nature Center, City of Conyers,
31 and Georgia International Horse Park for their dedication to the landscape of the community
32 and state; commitment to the natural habitat of the nature center to support the health of all
33 existing wildlife; and to the aesthetics of the recreational space of the nature center for the
34 community's continued enjoyment.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the

37 City of Conyers, Georgia International Horse Park, Arbor Day Foundation, and Tree City
38 USA.