

House Resolution 59

By: Representatives Park of the 107th, Hong of the 103rd, Au of the 50th, Tran of the 80th, Williams of the 168th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Korean American Day at the state
2 capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the influence of Korean Americans may be observed in all facets of American
4 life, from politics to industry, entrepreneurship to volunteerism, the arts, sports, and
5 education; and

6 WHEREAS, on January 13, 1903, the arrival of 102 pioneer immigrants to the United States
7 initiated the beginning of Korean immigration to the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, these pioneer Korean immigrants faced tremendous social and economic
9 obstacles as well as languages barriers in America—the land of opportunity; and

10 WHEREAS, the first generation of Korean immigrants established a new home in a new land
11 through resilience, tenacious effort, and immense sacrifice, which became the bedrock for
12 their children and future generations of Korean Americans; and

13 WHEREAS, members of the early Korean American community served with distinction in
14 the United States Armed Forces during World War I, World War II, and the conflict in
15 Korea; and

16 WHEREAS, in the early 1950s, thousands of Koreans fleeing from war, poverty, and
17 desolation came to the United States seeking opportunities; and

18 WHEREAS, Korean Americans, like immigrants to the United States before and after them,
19 have taken root and thrived because of strong family ties, robust community support, and
20 countless hours of hard work; and

21 WHEREAS, Korean Americans have made significant contributions to the economic vitality
22 of the United States and the global marketplace; and

23 WHEREAS, Korean Americans' contributions are widespread in business, not-for-profit, and
24 other nongovernmental organizations, government, technology, medical, athletic, art,
25 entertainment, fashion, journalism, religious, and academic sectors as well as in countless
26 other facets of American life; and

27 WHEREAS, the contributions of Korean Americans to the United States include the
28 invention of the first beating heart operation for coronary artery heart disease, development
29 of the nectarine, a four-time Olympic gold medalist, and achievements in engineering,
30 architecture, medicine, acting, singing, sculpting, and writing; and

31 WHEREAS, the population of Korean Americans in Georgia has increased 95 percent in the
32 last decade, making them an important and integral part of communities across this state; and

33 WHEREAS, more than 100,000 Korean Americans call Georgia home, and Korean is the
34 third most spoken language in the State of Georgia; and

35 WHEREAS, more than 130 Korean companies are active in Georgia and approximately
36 \$14.5 billion of foreign direct investments have strengthened the economic ties and
37 partnership between the Republic of Korea and the State of Georgia; and

38 WHEREAS, for their outstanding contributions and decades of community service, civic
39 engagement, and cross-cultural-education, we honor and thank Mr. Jay Eun, past president
40 of the Korean American Association of Greater Atlanta; Mr. Na Sang Ho, past president of
41 the Korean American Senior Association; Dr. Sam Sook Chung, the past president of the
42 Korean American Scholarship Foundation Southern Regional Chapter; and Dr. Yong Kun
43 Kim, founding member of the Korean American Scholarship Foundation Southern Regional
44 Chapter, for their steadfast support and decades of contributions to the Korean American
45 community and future generations in Georgia and the southeast; and

46 WHEREAS, the 2025 Korean American Day marks the 20th anniversary of the first Korean
47 American Day as recognized by the Congress of the United States of America.

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
49 the members of this body recognize and celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Korean American
50 Day at the state capitol.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
52 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
53 public and the press.