

## House Resolution 856

By: Representatives Smith of the 70<sup>th</sup>, Buckner of the 137<sup>th</sup>, Jones of the 47<sup>th</sup>, Dempsey of the 13<sup>th</sup>, New of the 64<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 8, 2024, as Keep Georgia Beautiful Day at the state capitol; and for  
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation was created in 1978 by executive order  
4 of Governor George Busbee; and

5 WHEREAS, there are now more than 70 local Keep America Beautiful Affiliates in Georgia,  
6 representing one of the largest networks of local affiliates in the nation; and

7 WHEREAS, those affiliates reach more than 80 percent of Georgia's population with litter  
8 prevention, waste reduction, recycling, and community beautification programs, including  
9 the Great American Cleanup, the Bring One for the Chipper Christmas tree recycling  
10 campaign, and BRACE (Blight Reduction and Code Enforcement) grants; and

11 WHEREAS, these programs demonstrate measurable results such as reducing litter collected  
12 during the Great American Cleanup by 75 percent over the last 15 years, recycling more than  
13 six million Christmas trees since the start of the Chipper program, and providing 23  
14 mini-grants to Georgia communities in its inaugural year for a total of \$100,000, including  
15 \$52,000 to communities with populations up to 10,000; and

16 WHEREAS, more than 90,000 volunteers participate in Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation  
17 and affiliate programs each year, representing a value of more than \$8 million to Georgia  
18 taxpayers; and

19 WHEREAS, the Keep Georgia Beautiful Foundation returns an average of \$85.46 in  
20 statewide annual benefits for every dollar invested by state government to help reduce crime,  
21 encourage economic development, and provide clean, green, healthy, and thriving  
22 communities for all Georgians.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
24 the members of this body recognize February 8, 2024, as Keep Georgia Beautiful Day at the  
25 state capitol.

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