

## House Resolution 955

By: Representatives Smith of the 70<sup>th</sup>, Dickey of the 145<sup>th</sup>, Gambill of the 15<sup>th</sup>, Gaines of the 120<sup>th</sup>, and Wiedower of the 121<sup>st</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the service of Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteers on the 45th  
2 anniversary of the program in Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteer program was created by the  
4 University of Georgia Extension in 1979 for the purpose of assisting the extension in  
5 providing consumer horticulture information and services to Georgia communities; and

6 WHEREAS, each individual volunteer makes a considerable commitment to the Master  
7 Gardener Extension Volunteer program by completing a rigorous training program that  
8 includes 50 hours of classroom study, successful examination, and 50 hours of volunteer  
9 service; and

10 WHEREAS, Master Gardener Extension Volunteers remain in active service to the  
11 University of Georgia Extension each year through 25 hours of volunteer service and ten  
12 hours of continuing education; and

13 WHEREAS, the Master Gardener Extension Volunteers program vision is to share the art  
14 and science of horticulture to foster healthy, greener communities; and

15 WHEREAS, Master Gardener Extension Volunteers provide essential assistance in meeting  
16 the demand for consumer horticulture programming, teaching noncommercial audiences  
17 about the selection and care of plants for ornamental value and home food production, such  
18 that natural resources and the environment are protected and that communities and lives are  
19 enhanced; and

20 WHEREAS, in the course of service, each Master Gardener Extension Volunteer embraces  
21 core values like science-based resources, volunteer services, collaborative partnerships, and  
22 knowledge and experience; and

23 WHEREAS, 2024 marks the 45th anniversary for the University of Georgia Master Gardener  
24 Extension Volunteer Program, in continuous operation since 1979, providing support to  
25 extension agents in more than 50 counties across Georgia; and

26 WHEREAS, the thousands of hours of volunteer support is valued in the millions of dollars,  
27 and as a result of educational activities offered by Master Gardener Extension Volunteers  
28 more Georgians connect with agriculture in their own homes and gardens and are able to  
29 make environmentally sound gardening decisions; and

30 WHEREAS, Master Gardener Extension Volunteers ultimately help the extension service  
31 achieve its mission of helping Georgians become healthier, more productive, financially  
32 independent, and environmentally responsible.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
34 the members of this body honor the service of Georgia Master Gardener Extension  
35 Volunteers on the 45th anniversary of the program in Georgia and thank those volunteers for  
36 their efforts to improve the quality of life for all Georgians.

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 Master Gardener Extension Volunteer program.