

Senate Resolution 210

By: Senators Watson of the 11th, Goodman of the 8th, Echols of the 49th, Anderson of the 24th, Anavitarte of the 31st and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Kent Todd Hamilton, the 2025 Georgia Farmer of the Year;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Kent Todd Hamilton currently serves as President and CEO of Southern Valley
4 Fruit and Vegetable Inc. in Norman Park, Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, he and his wife, Pamela, married in 1986 and have four children and seven
6 grandchildren; and

7 WHEREAS, Southern Valley Fruit and Vegetable Inc. is a progressive and innovative
8 company that continues to grow, operating as a family-run business with a woman-owned
9 packing and shipping division; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Hamilton and his brother, Kirk, founded Southern Valley Fruit and
11 Vegetable Inc. in 1987; and

12 WHEREAS, while Kirk had a deep passion for farming, he tragically passed away in an
13 accident involving pivot irrigation, followed not long after by their father, Benny, who had
14 been a tremendous source of support for Kent; and

15 WHEREAS, despite these hardships, Mr. Hamilton persevered and became a leader in the
16 Eastern vegetable market, overseeing 5,500 acres of farmland across Georgia, Tennessee,
17 Florida, and Yucatán, Mexico; and

18 WHEREAS, Southern Valley Fruit and Vegetable Inc. has built a reputation for supplying
19 customers with year-round produce while being recognized for superior customer service and
20 flexibility; and

21 WHEREAS, receiving the Farmer of the Year award is a true honor for Kent and his family;
22 he wishes to use this award to honor Kirk, Benny, and the dedicated team of people who
23 have helped and supported him along the way, and he believes that God has blessed him and
24 his family so they may, in turn, bless others, as evidenced by the prosperity of Southern
25 Valley Fruit and Vegetable Inc.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
27 recognize and commend Kent Todd Hamilton for his dedication to the people of the State of
28 Georgia as well as extend sincere best wishes for continued health, happiness, and success.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
30 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to Kent Todd
31 Hamilton.