

Senate Resolution 748

By: Senators Anderson of the 24th, Echols of the 49th, Hickman of the 4th, Hodges of the 3rd, Dixon of the 45th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 10-16, 2024, as National Groundwater Awareness Week in Georgia; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, groundwater is one of the most precious natural resources we have; and

4 WHEREAS, groundwater is the largest source of available freshwater in the world, and there
5 is something for every person to do in being a good steward of groundwater; and

6 WHEREAS, nearly 44 percent of America's population depends on groundwater for its
7 drinking supply; and

8 WHEREAS, Georgia has approximately 7,000 wells that are part of permitted drinking water
9 systems, over 17,000 agricultural wells, and approximately 650,000 domestic wells; and

10 WHEREAS, Americans are some of the largest per capita users of water in the world, using
11 79.6 billion gallons of groundwater daily, the equivalent of 2,923 12 ounce cans for every
12 woman, man, and child; and

13 WHEREAS, there are a number of tips for conserving water, including never pouring water
14 down the drain when there may be another use for it, repairing dripping faucets and toilets
15 because one drop per second wastes 2,700 gallons per year, not running a faucet when not
16 using the water, and only running the dishwasher when it is fully loaded; and

17 WHEREAS, the National Ground Water Association (NGWA) recommends an annual well
18 system maintenance checkup by a qualified water well system contractor to reduce risks to
19 the water supply and prevent costly and inconvenient breakdowns; and

20 WHEREAS, each well that is missing any well head protection measure is more likely to
21 cause harm to people and our aquifers. Well head protection measures can be installed or
22 repaired with relative ease and low expense. When well owners are aware of the reasons for
23 well head protection measures, they are more likely to maintain their wells properly. Well
24 owners are our first line of defense in protecting our groundwater; and

25 WHEREAS, protecting groundwater in turn protects those who drink the groundwater; and

26 WHEREAS, the Georgia Association of Groundwater Professionals (GAGwP) and the
27 NGWA urge the public to help preserve and protect groundwater for human and
28 environmental purposes.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
30 encourage everyone to help preserve groundwater and recognize March 10-16, 2024, as
31 National Groundwater Awareness Week in Georgia.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the Georgia
34 Association of Groundwater Professionals and the National Ground Water Association.