

1 HR401
2 160911-1
3 By Representatives Grimsley and Forte
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 20-MAR-14

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8 RECOGNIZING THE UPCOMING BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION
9 BY FORT GAINES 200 TO BE HELD IN 2016.

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11 WHEREAS, Fort Gaines 200 is a grass roots project to
12 commemorate the building of the military outpost in 1816; Fort
13 Gaines 200 is presently laying the groundwork for a variety of
14 activities and events to be held in 2016 in celebration of the
15 Fort Gaines Bicentennial; these events will educate,
16 entertain, and enhance the appreciation of early 1800's
17 history; and

18 WHEREAS, it is with highest commendation that Fort
19 Gaines 200 is recognized for the significant contributions to
20 the Franklin area, and the entire State of Alabama; its goal
21 of developing and maintaining a place of distinction for
22 locals and tourists alike is worthy of this recognition by the
23 Alabama House of Representatives; and

24 WHEREAS, in 1816, during the Creek Indian War,
25 General Edmond Gaines, along with a camp of soldiers,
26 including 100 Choctaw Indians, established a fort down river
27 from Fort Mitchell at the bend of the Chattahoochee River just

1 below the Cemocheechobee Creek; the site had a commanding view
2 of the Indian land below, as well as all river traffic; and

3 WHEREAS, located at the southernmost outpost during
4 the Creek Indian War, the fort was designed to protect the
5 newly acquired land of the Tallassee Territory, the settlers
6 of Franklin, Alabama, and the surveyors running the boundary
7 lines of the new territory; the fort was built with two
8 blockhouses at diagonal corners and the strategy was that the
9 small complement of soldiers would be reinforced by the
10 muskets of the citizen-soldiers who sought the safety of this
11 stockade; and

12 WHEREAS, the newly established fort was located near
13 the home village of Lower Creek Indians led by Chief Otus
14 Micco, who refused to pledge allegiance to the United States;
15 ultimately, Chief Micco led his tribe to Spanish Florida where
16 they joined the Seminole Indians; and

17 WHEREAS, the 4th Infantry honored General Gaines by
18 naming this small frontier installation Fort Gaines; a replica
19 of the fort stands today near the original site as a part of
20 Frontier Village, representing frontier life in the 1800's,
21 educating others, and preserving the rich history of the area;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, in 2016, Clay County and the City of Fort
24 Gaines, Georgia, will be joined by Henry County, Alabama, to
25 commemorate the bicentennial of the establishment of Fort
26 Gaines; to share the rich cultural heritage of Fort Gaines,

1 several events in the summer of 2016 will be hosted by Fort
2 Gaines 200; and

3 WHEREAS, it is the goal and vision of Fort Gaines
4 200 to build a replica of a traditional Creek Indian Village
5 at Frontier Village to honor and share the culture of native
6 people alongside the frontier way of life during the early
7 1800's; and

8 WHEREAS, commemorating and educating visitors during
9 the Fort Gaines Bicentennial and in the years beyond is an
10 honorable task and goal for Fort Gaines 200, for which it is
11 truly deserving of special recognition; now therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
13 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That we take great pride and
14 pleasure in commending Fort Gaines 200 and the goals and
15 achievements made towards the 2016 celebration of the Fort
16 Gaines Bicentennial and it is directed that a copy of this
17 resolution be provided for display as evidence of the esteem
18 in which it is held along with best wishes for the special
19 events of the Fort Gaines Bicentennial in 2016 and in all
20 future endeavors.