

House Bill 237

By: Representatives Hagan of the 156<sup>th</sup>, Werkheiser of the 157<sup>th</sup>, Seabaugh of the 34<sup>th</sup>, and Hatchett of the 155<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 3 of Chapter 3 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to state symbols, so as to designate the Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby as the  
3 official soap box derby of the State of Georgia; to provide for promotion of the Southeast  
4 Georgia Soap Box Derby; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for related matters;  
5 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 The General Assembly finds that:

- 9 (1) The Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby began in 1992 in Lyons, Georgia;
- 10 (2) Approximately 20 cars were involved in the first race, competing in only one  
11 division;
- 12 (3) Today, the event has grown to an average of 50 drivers competing in four divisions,  
13 including one division for drivers with intellectual and developmental disabilities;
- 14 (4) Three World Champions have qualified at the Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby  
15 in Lyons;

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- 16 (5) The Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby's mission includes building knowledge and  
17 character, creating meaningful experiences through collaboration, hosting fair and honest  
18 racing competitions, and supporting a STEM curriculum; and  
19 (6) The race is open to girls and boys between the ages of seven and 20.

20 **SECTION 2.**

21 Article 3 of Chapter 3 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state  
22 symbols, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

23 "50-3-92.

24 (a) The Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby in Lyons, Georgia, is designated as the official  
25 soap box derby of the State of Georgia.

26 (b) The Department of Economic Development and other public agencies and leaders in  
27 the tourism industry are encouraged to work together to maximize advertising programs  
28 which permit citizens of other states and nations to learn of the Southeast Georgia Soap  
29 Box Derby and to visit this state for tourism purposes."

30 **SECTION 3.**

31 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.