

House Resolution 1209

By: Representative Dubnik of the 29th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring TifTuf Bermudagrass, a drought-tolerant bermudagrass being grown by Georgia
2 farmers and others that is advancing outdoor water conservation for our growing state; and
3 for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the University of Georgia turfgrass research team developed the highly
5 acclaimed cultivar TifTuf, which is the most drought-tolerant bermudagrass on the market;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, TifTuf uses 38 percent less water and retains 95 percent more green leaf tissue
8 during drought stress when compared to the commonly used Tifway variety; and

9 WHEREAS, TifTuf Bermuda has been grown for just seven years on several farms in
10 Georgia and is widely available across the state and in the metro Atlanta area; and

11 WHEREAS, since TifTuf Bermuda went into production with just 10 acres in 2015, it has
12 now grown to more than 14,000 acres in production in the United States; and

13 WHEREAS, TifTuf Bermuda is also expanding rapidly in other countries as there are now 40
14 growers in Australia in addition to numerous other countries; and

15 WHEREAS, TifTuf Bermuda is the fastest warm season turfgrass to achieve the milestone
16 of one billion square feet sold and installed, which is the equivalent of about 250,000 homes;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, TifTuf Bermuda's milestone is a terrific achievement and showcases the
19 benefits of science-based advancements that enhance consumer options for improving water
20 conservation in landscapes and on recreation areas; and

21 WHEREAS, consumers will save precious water resources while experiencing reduced water
22 bills and enjoying excellent landscape aesthetics with this turfgrass; and

23 WHEREAS, the Metro North Georgia Water Planning District (MNGWPD) has begun
24 promoting the use of drought-tolerant turfgrasses, such as TifTuf Bermuda, as part of their
25 water conservation education initiatives.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
27 the members of this body join in honoring the success of TifTuf Bermudagrass, the work of
28 the University of Georgia's turfgrass program, the many farms growing the sod, and the
29 Metro North Georgia Water Planning District's water conservation education initiatives as
30 landscapes advance these turfgrass cultivars to improve water savings in our lawns, parks,
31 and recreation areas to help us all be even better stewards of our water resources.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
33 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
34 public and the press.