

House Resolution 14

By: Representatives Park of the 107th, Hong of the 103rd, Marin of the 96th, Au of the 50th, Gilliard of the 162nd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 23, 2023, as Korean American Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the 2023 Korean American Day marks the 120th anniversary of the first Korean
4 immigrants to the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, on January 13, 1903, the arrival of 102 courageous immigrants to the United
6 States initiated the beginning of Korean immigration to the United States; and

7 WHEREAS, these pioneer Korean immigrants overcame tremendous social and economic
8 obstacles to establish a new home in a new land through resilience, tenacious effort, and
9 immense sacrifice, which served as a foundation for their children and future generations of
10 Korean Americans; and

11 WHEREAS, Korean Americans, like immigrants to the United States before and after them,
12 have taken root and thrived because of strong family ties, robust community support, and
13 countless hours of hard work to provide for their families and communities; and

14 WHEREAS, members of the early Korean American community served with distinction in
15 the United States Armed Forces during World War I, World War II, and the conflict in
16 Korea; and

17 WHEREAS, Korean Americans have made significant contributions to the economic vitality
18 of the United States and the global marketplace; and

19 WHEREAS, the influence of Korean Americans may be observed in all facets of American
20 life, including their contributions to government, business, not-for-profit and other
21 nongovernmental organizations, technology, medicine, sports, the arts, and academia; and

22 WHEREAS, the population of Korean Americans in Georgia has increased 95 percent in the
23 last decade, and Korean Americans across this state serve as integral members of their
24 communities; and

25 WHEREAS, more than 100,000 Korean Americans call Georgia home, and Korean is the
26 third most spoken language in the State of Georgia; and

27 WHEREAS, more than 130 Korean companies have invested approximately \$14.5 billion
28 in foreign direct investments throughout the State of Georgia, which has strengthened the
29 economic partnership and diplomatic relationship between the Republic of Korea and the
30 State of Georgia; and

31 WHEREAS, prominent organizations and leaders have helped the Korean American
32 community in Georgia thrive, including the Korean American Foundation led by President
33 Michael Park, the Korean American Association of Greater Atlanta led by President Hongki
34 Lee, the Federation of Korean Associations SEUS led by President Seung Won Hong, the

35 National Unification Advisory Council led by President Hyung Ryul Kim, the Korean
36 Consulate of Atlanta led by the Honorable Consul General Yoonjoo Park, the many Korean
37 American Trade Associations in Georgia, and others; and

38 WHEREAS, for their outstanding contributions to community service, civic engagement, and
39 cross-cultural-education, we recognize and honor Mr. Sunny Park, Mr. Baik Kyu Kim,
40 Mrs. Shreve Lee, Ms. Kook-Ja Lee, Mr. Jongwon Lee, and many others for their steadfast
41 support of the Korean American community in Georgia.

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
43 the members of this body recognize January 23, 2023, as Korean American Day at the state
44 capitol.

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