

House Resolution 1435

By: Representative Stephens of the 164th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the State of Georgia and the Department of Economic Development to support the
2 Vince Dooley Battlefield Preservation Fund as part of the Georgia US250 Committee's
3 observance of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the American Battlefield Trust preserves our nation's hallowed battlegrounds
5 and educates Americans on why they are valuable and what they mean today; and

6 WHEREAS, this organization was founded in 1987 with an unwavering commitment to
7 protect and safeguard our nation's endangered battlefields; and

8 WHEREAS, the National Park Service estimates that only 20 percent of the most significant
9 battlefields of the Civil War are permanently preserved, and, more alarmingly, that half of
10 the battlefields of the American Revolution and the War of 1812 have already been lost; and

11 WHEREAS, the American Battlefield Trust has saved and preserved more than 58,000 acres
12 of significant battlefield lands across 25 states; and

13 WHEREAS, Georgia has played a significant role over the past 250 years, with more than
14 six American Revolution battlefields, one War of 1812 battlefield, and 27 Civil War
15 battlefields, all of historical significance that make them worthy of preservation; and

16 WHEREAS, the trust has identified over 200 acres of battlefield lands at Chickamauga;
17 Gilgal Church; Kettle Creek, which is a new National Park Service affiliated battlefield park;
18 Pine Mountain; Ringgold Gap; and Rocky Face Ridge as primary preservation sites; and

19 WHEREAS, since 1997, the trust has protected more than 2,400 acres at Kennesaw
20 Mountain, New Hope Church, Resaca, and other locations valued at over \$10 million; and

21 WHEREAS, to honor legendary University of Georgia Coach Vince Dooley, a passionate
22 historian with a keen interest in Georgia's battle sites, the American Battlefield Trust is
23 establishing the Vince Dooley Battlefield Preservation Fund with the goal of securing private
24 and public funding to help secure federal matching funds to preserve these important sites;
25 and

26 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia will be joining a large number of states and the original 13
27 colonies as the nation observes the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the
28 Declaration of Independence, and the history and success of this nation in the ensuing years
29 through the Governor's Executive Order establishing and appointing the Georgia US250
30 Committee.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body urge the State of Georgia and the Department of Economic
33 Development to support the Vince Dooley Battlefield Preservation Fund as part of the
34 Georgia US250 Committee's observance of the 250th anniversary of the American

35 Revolution in order to help secure federal matching funds to protect and preserve these
36 important landmarks and historical sites as part of Georgia's enduring contribution to mark
37 the 250th anniversary of the founding of this great nation.

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