

## House Resolution 159

By: Representatives Wade of the 9<sup>th</sup>, Gunter of the 8<sup>th</sup>, Cox of the 28<sup>th</sup>, McDonald of the 26<sup>th</sup>, Barrett of the 24<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the University of North Georgia upon its 150th anniversary;  
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, on January 6, 1873, after several years of planning and effort, the North Georgia  
4 Agricultural College officially opened its doors with the central mission of providing free  
5 educational opportunities to the young men and women of northeast Georgia, many of whom  
6 could not afford to travel great distances for education; and

7 WHEREAS, the college began as a land grant university through a partnership with the  
8 University of Georgia and funding from the historic Morrill Land Grant Act; and

9 WHEREAS, because military education was a requirement of any institution receiving funds  
10 through the Morrill Act, 1873 also marks the beginning of the university's Corps of Cadets,  
11 and the university later earned a federal designation as one of only six senior military  
12 colleges in the nation; and

13 WHEREAS, in its first year of classes, the college enrolled 98 men and 79 women at a time  
14 when most institutions did not even admit women; it would eventually become the first  
15 college in Georgia to grant a bachelor's degree to a woman; and

16 WHEREAS, known today as the University of North Georgia, this outstanding academic  
17 institution is a leading public regional university that serves nearly 19,000 students online  
18 and at campuses in Dahlonega, Gainesville, Oconee County, Cumming, and Blue Ridge; and

19 WHEREAS, in addition to serving students from northeast Georgia, the university attracts  
20 students from nearly every county in Georgia as well as from more than 46 states and 87  
21 countries; and

22 WHEREAS, the University of North Georgia grants more than 3,000 degrees each year and  
23 has an annual economic impact of more than \$755 million on the region; and

24 WHEREAS, the Honorable Thomas B. Murphy, 69th Speaker of the Georgia House of  
25 Representatives and Georgia's longest-serving Speaker of the House, is a distinguished  
26 alumnus of the institution, having graduated in 1943; and

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28 WHEREAS, the Honorable David E. Ralston, 73rd Speaker of the Georgia House of  
29 Representatives, is a distinguished alumnus of the institution, having graduated in 1976, and  
30 he championed the creation of a satellite campus of the institution in Blue Ridge; and

31 WHEREAS, this remarkable university has equipped generations of professional, civic, and  
32 military leaders to serve our region, our state, and our nation.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
34 the members of this body recognize and commend the University of North Georgia upon the  
35 grand occasion of its 150th anniversary and extend sincere best wishes for continued success.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
37 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
38 University of North Georgia.