

House Resolution 1706

By: Representative Gurtler of the 8<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Ravi Zacharias; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
3 with the passing of Ravi Zacharias on May 19, 2020; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Ravi Zacharias was born on March 26, 1946, in Madras, India, and immigrated  
5 to Canada with his family in 1966; and
- 6 WHEREAS, he found Christ at the age of 17 and, soon after immigrating to Canada, he was  
7 invited by Ruth Jeffrey, a veteran missionary to Vietnam, to come to her adopted land; he  
8 spent the summer of 1971 being flown across the country by helicopter gunship to preach at  
9 military bases, in hospitals, and in prisons to the Viet Cong; in 1974, Ravi ministered with  
10 the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Cambodia; and
- 11 WHEREAS, in 1983, at the age of 37, Ravi preached at the inaugural International  
12 Conference for Itinerant Evangelists in Amsterdam at the invitation of Billy Graham; a year  
13 later, he founded Ravi Zacharias International Ministries, with the mission of "helping the  
14 thinker believe and the believer think"; and
- 15 WHEREAS, in the 1980s, Ravi's message was heard through the airwaves, not just in the  
16 United States but around the world, in his radio program, *Let My People Think*; his weekly  
17 broadcasts explored issues such as the credibility of the Christian message and the Bible, the  
18 weakness of modern intellectual movements, and the uniqueness of Jesus Christ; today, his  
19 radio program is syndicated to more than 2,000 stations in 32 countries; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Ravi's ministry took him through the Americas, into Southeast Asia, through  
21 Eastern Europe following the collapse of the Berlin Wall, and into Africa; and

22 WHEREAS, Ravi was featured as a keynote speaker at the Billy Graham Evangelistic  
23 Association, the National Religious Broadcasters Convention, and the Veritas Forum; and

24 WHEREAS, he used his ministry to pursue his calling as a "classical evangelist in the arena  
25 of the intellectually resistant"; his books have sold millions of copies worldwide; among his  
26 28 books were the Christian bestsellers, *Jesus Among Other Gods* and *The Grand Weaver*;  
27 and

28 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Ravi will long be remembered for his  
29 tireless devotion to his calling and for his love of family, friendship, and community; by the  
30 example he made of his life, he made this world a better place in which to live.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
32 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Ravi Zacharias and express  
33 their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
36 family of Ravi Zacharias.