

House Resolution 508

By: Representative Kirby of the 114th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Big Haynes Creek Nature Center, located at the Georgia International
2 Horse Park, for initiating its first tree-planting ceremony in partnership with the City of
3 Conyers for the state's annual Arbor Day celebration; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, on February 19, 2021, Mayor Vince Evans and employees from the city's Code
5 Enforcement Division and the Georgia International Horse Park gathered to plant one of
6 several trees as part of a month-long campaign to encourage residents to plant native trees
7 and shrubs on their own properties to enhance the community and increase wildlife
8 biodiversity; and

9 WHEREAS, Big Haynes Creek Nature Center consists of 173 acres of forests and wetlands
10 with a comprehensive trail system and is committed to the Arbor Day Foundation mission
11 to raise awareness of trees and the important role that they play in our environment; and

12 WHEREAS, in addition to the tranquil aesthetics trees provide for visitors, many animals
13 that call Big Haynes Creek Nature Center home use trees for resting, nesting, and places
14 from which to hunt or capture prey; and

15 WHEREAS, Big Haynes Creek Nature Center proudly supports the mission of the Code
16 Enforcement's tree ordinance, which was developed to keep the city green and sustainable
17 for future generations; and

18 WHEREAS, the City of Conyers celebrated 29 consecutive years of being named a Tree City
19 USA by the Arbor Day Foundation on this day; Big Haynes Creek Nature Center was
20 honored to be a part of this distinguished accomplishment; and

21 WHEREAS, a white flowering dogwood tree was chosen not only for its natural beauty but
22 also for its high wildlife value, which will benefit over 36 species of songbirds, squirrels,
23 chipmunks, fox, deer, wild turkey, and several other animal species that reside at the Big
24 Haynes Creek Nature Center; and

25 WHEREAS, all other trees planted at the Big Haynes Creek Nature Center and throughout
26 the City of Conyers during this Arbor Day campaign are native to the State of Georgia,
27 adding fruits and foraging opportunities, including a great many native and migratory birds;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, Code Enforcement is diligently working with the city's Public Works Division
30 to identify other locations for new tree sites.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body commend the Big Haynes Creek Nature Center, City of Conyers,
33 and Georgia International Horse Park for their dedication to the landscape of the community
34 and state; commitment to the natural habitat of the nature center to support the health of all
35 existing wildlife; and devotion to the aesthetics of the recreational space of the nature center
36 for the community's continued enjoyment.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
38 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
39 City of Conyers, Georgia International Horse Park, Arbor Day Foundation, and Tree City
40 USA.