

Senate Resolution 20

By: Senators Williams of the 27th, Unterman of the 45th, Watson of the 1st, Ginn of the 47th, Mullis of the 53rd and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating February 15th of each year as "Plastic Pollution Awareness Day" in Georgia;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia recognizes the importance of environmental sustainability;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, each year in the United States, Americans throw away billions of plastic water
6 bottles and use approximately 500 million single-use disposable plastic straws and up to 700
7 single-use disposable plastic bags; and

8 WHEREAS, virtually every plastic product ever produced still exists on this planet
9 somewhere and only about 9 percent of the plastics produced are ever recovered; and

10 WHEREAS, excess plastics affect life and resources on Earth in profound ways: production
11 of plastic products consumes precious fossil fuels; birds, fish, turtles, dolphins, sharks, and
12 whales are killed by being entangled in plastic or eating plastic products; and harmful
13 chemicals from certain plastics can be absorbed by the human body; and

14 WHEREAS, Georgia consumers and retailers should seek out alternatives to using single-use
15 disposable plastic products, such as using paper straws and reusable bags; and

16 WHEREAS, Georgia businesses should strive to reduce their plastic footprint by developing
17 and adopting improved environmental best practices; and

18 WHEREAS, Georgia's citizens should consider a pledge to honor Plastic Pollution
19 Awareness Day by volunteering on that day to aid in the cleanup efforts of local streets,
20 rivers, lakes, or beaches and refusing to use single-use disposable plastic products; and

21 WHEREAS, the health and welfare of the environment and resources of this state depend,
22 in great measure, upon the dedication of private and corporate citizens working together to
23 achieve the common goal of sustainability.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
25 GEORGIA that February 15th of each year shall be designated as "Plastic Pollution
26 Awareness Day" in Georgia.