

Senate Resolution 33

By: Senator Gooch of the 51st

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 7, 2019, as Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Day at the state capitol; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Lumpkin County, Georgia, was once part of the Cherokee Nation; and

4 WHEREAS, Lumpkin County was founded in 1832 by breaking away from Cherokee,
5 Habersham, and Hall counties and was named for Wilson Lumpkin, a former governor of the
6 State of Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, Lumpkin covers 284 square miles and has a population of more than 30,000;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Lumpkin County has great natural beauty, including dozens of rivers, streams,
10 creeks, and cascading waterfalls, as well as hundreds of miles of hiking trails; and

11 WHEREAS, Lumpkin County is known as the gateway to the North Georgia mountains and
12 is home to many outdoor tourist attractions, such as the Chattahoochee National Forest,
13 through which the Appalachian Trail runs; and

14 WHEREAS, Dahlonega, in Lumpkin County, is the closest town to the southern terminus of
15 the Appalachian Trail; and

16 WHEREAS, Lumpkin County and Dahlonega are home to many tourist attractions, including
17 the Dahlonega Gold Museum, the oldest courthouse building still standing in Georgia, which
18 underwent a major renovation in 2018; and

19 WHEREAS, the Gold Museum and the Consolidated and Crisson gold mines all
20 experientially tell the story of Dahlonega and Lumpkin County as the site of America's first
21 major gold rush; and

22 WHEREAS, Dahlonega and Lumpkin County's gold mines were the source of the gold that
23 covers both the Capitol dome in Atlanta and Price Memorial Hall on the University of North
24 Georgia's Dahlonega campus; and

25 WHEREAS, Dahlonega and Lumpkin County are home to Camp Merrill, one of only three
26 U.S. Army Ranger camps, which was named for Brigadier General Frank D. Merrill and was
27 founded in 1952; and

28 WHEREAS, the University of North Georgia, a supportive contributor to the Dahlonega and
29 Lumpkin County community, is one of only six senior military colleges in the United States
30 and is home to the Boar's Head Brigade; and

31 WHEREAS, Lumpkin County and Dahlonega are the Heart of Georgia Wine Country, with
32 six wineries and nine wine tasting rooms; and

33 WHEREAS, Dahlonega has been designated as the Official Wine Tasting Room Capital of
34 Georgia; and

35 WHEREAS, Dahlonega and Lumpkin County are home to a new Zac Brown distillery that
36 produces high-quality spirits and Etowah Meadery which offers wine made from honey; and

37 WHEREAS, Downtown Dahlonega was the national winner of the Great American Main
38 Street Award in 2016; and

39 WHEREAS, the Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Chamber and Visitors Bureau and its
40 community partners, including the Dahlonega Downtown Development Authority, the
41 Lumpkin County Economic Development Department, the City of Dahlonega, Lumpkin
42 County, the University of North Georgia, and Lumpkin County Schools, are working to
43 develop and implement a vision for the future of the community; and

44 WHEREAS, the Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Visitors Center welcomes nearly 200,000
45 visitors every year, more than any other Visitors Information Center in the state, except for
46 Savannah; and

47 WHEREAS, the citizens of Lumpkin County are justly proud of their community, its past,
48 and its many contributions to the state, and it is only fitting and proper to recognize this
49 amazing county.

50 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
51 recognize February 7, 2019, as Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Day at the state capitol and
52 express their most sincere best wishes for continued success.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
54 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
55 Dahlonega-Lumpkin County Chamber and Visitors Bureau.